

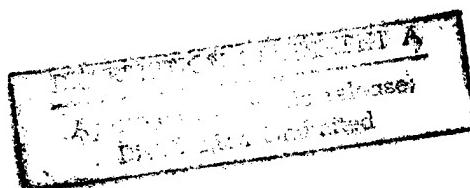
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18 APRIL 1986

Worldwide Report

ARMS CONTROL



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18 April 1986

**WORLDWIDE REPORT
ARMS CONTROL**

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON ATTEMPTS TO DRAW ALLIES INTO STAR WARS

LD270029 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Commentary by Edgar Rostov]

[Text] The director of the Pentagon department concerned with Star Wars, General Abrahamson, has admitted in an interview with the ARMED FORCES JOURNAL that the Star Wars plan was motivated by Washington's desire to develop and deploy attack space weapons. He also said that one of the top priorities of the United States now is to involve its allies into the project. The American general pointed out that America's allies have unique technological experience in many areas and that is why, he explained, the Pentagon wants to obtain the best people to work on the U.S. project. The revelation of Gen Abrahamson coincided with the anniversary of the Star Wars speech President Reagan delivered on 23 March 1983 and in which he told the world that he is starting a program that is to change the course of history. The American President asked scientists to apply their talents to what he described as the cause of humanity and peace on earth to develop a means of making nuclear weapons obsolete and impotent.

Many people around the world have rejected the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, having become aware of its objectives extremely dangerous to peace. The PHILADELPHIA ENQUIRER has reported that over 3,100 American scientists, and among them 14 Nobel Prize winners, have pledged not to take part in the Star Wars program. They, of course, have every qualification to judge about the so-called advantages of President Reagan's program and they rejected them.

President Reagan, it appears from the results of opinion polls, has failed to persuade the public at home or abroad that SDI will render nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete. It could not have been otherwise, because having begun to implement Star Wars the U.S. Administration at the same time went ahead with all of its nuclear weapons programs.

In its report of 1 March 1985, the Pentagon said that having deployed a space defense system the United States will retain a powerful strategic triad to deliver a nuclear strike at the USSR. In other words, Washington wants to complement its nuclear sword with a nuclear shield and that is what its strategy boils down to. Pentagon officials directly involved in Star Wars have done a great deal to expose that strategy. Gen Abrahamson has already been

quoted here. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has never kept it a secret that the United States is pressing for a return of the nuclear monopoly. Mr Weinberger said that if the United States succeeds in obtaining an effective system that would make Soviet weapons ineffective it will return to the situation where the United States was when it had the monopoly of nuclear weapons. These statements make it absolutely clear what are Washington's objectives in involving its allies in Star Wars. The United States would like to employ the scientific potential and the political support of its partners in implementing its militarist plans.

But are America's partners unaware of the dangers in supporting that policy? There is every indication that they are aware of these dangers. The British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, recently voiced serious reservations about Britain's involvement in Star Wars. After receiving a rebuke from Washington he went back on his critical statements. In his recent speech to the Foreign Press Association he described Pentagon experiments under the Star Wars program as an act of statecraft. The objective of these experiments is well known. It is to develop attack space weapons.

By planning to militarize space, together with its allies, the United States Defense Department is hoping to break up the strategic parity between the United States and the USSR. Do these aspirations tally with President Reagan's official renunciation at the Geneva summit of the drive for military superiority? At the summit the two sides proceeded from the inseparable link between the two parts of the joint Soviet-American statement of 8 January 1985 on preventing an arms race in space and halting the arms race on earth. Moscow believes that there is no point in reducing strategic weapons on earth and at the same time building up weapons systems in space. As preparations under Star Wars gather momentum that strategy is becoming increasingly unpopular. [sentence as heard] A reliable barrier must be built in the way of space militarization.

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TASS: U.S. 'UNILATERALLY DISCARDING' ABM TREATY

LD262001 Moscow TASS in English 1941 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, March 26 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev.

On March 22, the world was indignant at glaring militaristic actions of the U.S. Administration. Despite numerous calls of the Soviet Union, other countries, broad public of the USA, a nuclear weapon test was staged in the USA. This gives more evidence that Washington's real aim is not reduction and elimination of nuclear arms, but, quite the contrary, their build-up, creation of new and ever more destructive types of nuclear arms.

The new explosion and the refusal to resume talks on a comprehensive test ban also show the unwillingness of the U.S. administration to observe the existing agreements. Quite recently, joint congressional resolution number three, endorsed by the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, declared that the threshold test ban treaty and the peaceful nuclear explosive treaty bind the USA to press for the cessation of all nuclear weapon testing for ever. But the present U.S. leadership views the earlier assumed obligations to its striving to achieve military strategic superiority for the United States.

Persisting with the nuclear arms race and speeding up work under the "star wars" program, Washington intends to go back on the treaties and agreements signed earlier, above all the ABM Treaty and SALT-2 Treaty. This is shown by statements made recently by U.S. officials.

Thus, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle, addressing a subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee declared outright that a large-scale ABM system with space-basing elements should be launched "whether or not the Russians will agree to negotiate the revision" of the ABM Treaty. Meanwhile, even at the present stage of the implementation of the "star wars" program, which Washington tries to present as a "research" program, he declared for a broad interpretation of the treaty so as to hold armaments tests.

As is known, according to this "broad interpretation" invented in the USA only six months ago, contrary to the interpretation of the ABM Treaty by the Soviet Union and four U.S. Administrations, it is alleged that the development and testing of systems and components of "exotic" armaments -- lasers, beam weapons, etc. are not prohibited under the treaty at all.

Addressing legislators, Perle, quite unabashed, set out a program of eroding the ABM Treaty which is one of the fundamentals of the process of arresting the arms race, the program that envisages a transition from the present violations under the signboard of "broad interpretation" and then to unilaterally discarding the treaty altogether and deploying armaments created under the "star wars" program.

The SALT-2 Treaty is also under a threat. Next May the U.S. Navy plans to launch the eighth atomic "Trident" submarine -- "Nevada." If the USA does not take compensatory measures, for instance, dismantle two old "Poseidon" submarines, the ceiling for launchers of MIRVed missiles set by the SALT-2 Treaty will be surpassed. Some people in Washington have already declared against the United States adhering to the treaty, and apologists of "star wars" are in their lead.

The Strategic Defence Initiative organization leaders stubbornly declare for keeping all the existing "Poseidon" submarines in the U.S. Navy since, according to the Pentagon, they are ideally suited to serving as launch pads for "exotic weapons" -- X-ray lasers with nuclear pumping. So it is not only the ABM Treaty, but also the SALT-2 Treaty that interferes with "stellar warriors" and so they declare that their provisions should not be observed.

All this shows that some people in Washington persist in thinking in old categories. This makes one recall a recommendation to U.S. President Harry Truman in a secret report on the American-Soviet relations drawn up for him: The United States with its military potential consisting above all of highly effective armaments should not support any proposals on disarmament or arms limitation. And it is such "recommendations" that they in Washington try to follow now, losing sight of the fact that now it is 1986, not 1946.

It is time for the U.S. leadership to realize that this policy only poses new threats to peoples, the American people along with them. Mutual security nowadays requires a new way of thinking. The awareness that this security can be achieved only by political means, on the road of talks and preservation of existing arrangements.

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

PRAVDA'S ZHUKOV VIEWS EUROPEAN SDI INVOLVEMENT

PM261519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by political observer Yuriy Zhukov: "'EuroSDI' -- What Is It?"]

[Text] Reports on plans to create a so-called "European system of defensive space armaments" ("EuroSDI") which would supplement the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) are appearing in the Western press. The word "defensive" is, of course used as a blind on this occasion too.

Woerner's Plan and General Rogers' Specifications

This plan was actively worked up back in spring last year among Parisian right-wing circles and among Bonn's ruling echelons, which displayed special interest in it. And it is evidently no accident that the idea of "EuroSDI" is now being increasingly frequently linked with the name of FDC Defense Minister Woerner.

For instance, here is what the informed West German magazine DER SPIEGEL said back in December 1985: "The U.S. antimissile space system will have a European brother: Defense Minister Woerner is demanding the approval of the EDI -- the 'European Defense Initiative.'"

As AP reported 2 March, "Woerner suggested the 'European Defense Initiative' plan back at the NATO session in Brussels in December last year but this idea failed to generate great enthusiasm among other Europeans." But he did find friends and fellow-thinkers in Washington and this was clearly no accident: after all the "EuroSDI" is indeed the "younger brother" of the American SDI and they have the same father: the Pentagon.

As Woerner himself admitted in the article "Europe needs an ABM defense" published 28 February in the Hamburg weekly DIE ZEIT "For several years now (!) the Federal Republic in conjunction with the United States has been developing a system... which in terms of its tactical and technical data signifies a new quality in the direction of obtaining heightened capabilities in ABM defense."

Language of barrack-room coarseness, but the crux is clear!

To reassure the West European public a story has been put into circulation alleging that the creation of their own "independent" space weapon enables the West European states to "gain independence" from the United States.

But as early as 13 February a crushing blow was dealt to this crafty story by none other than the U.S. General B. Rogers, commander in chief of the NATO Allied Armed Forces, Europe, who gave a thunderous interview to the West German newspaper NEUE OZ OSNABRUCKER ZEITUNG. The talk of "European independence" and "originality" launched by the West German press seemed to him a danerous heresy.

Incidentally, back in November, when the first reports of the "EuroSDI" plans had percolated to the press, this U.S. general made it clearly understood in an interview with the newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSHAU that it was only a case of a military-technical addition to the SDI and that this additional system would be at his disposal.

Moreover, at the same time he accidentally revealed that the actual idea of creating this additional system was put to the West European allies from Washington: "Specialists employed on the SDI program," he said, "have assured me that it will also be necessary to create a system against weapons like the SS-20 and other missiles. I attach great importance to the fact that we (!) have created a system of defense against these weapons in West Europe."

Later the irrepressible Rogers, describing the "star wars" preparation program, stated in a peremptory tone that "the West Europeans must (!) begin to pursue a parallel program, as the Germans call it -- the European Defense Initiative." And he immediately added that this system is conceived as a "side-effect" of SDI.

And in February, in NEUE OZ OSNABRUCKER ZEITUNG, Rogers again made it clearly understood that the "EuroSDI" is conceived only as a sideshoot of the U.S. "star wars" program. Going even further, he said that the United States is prepared to take an active part in the implementation of Woerner's plan: "If the Europeans succeed in pooling their technical potential and organizing this, it would be possible to develop such a system including with the aid of scientific exchange across the ocean jointly (jointly! -- Yu.Zh.) with SDI."

The only thing which annoys and angers the high-ranking U.S. general is the cool attitude toward Woerner's plan displayed by a number of West European allies who do not support this plan. "I am most disappointed," he said, "that other states have failed to take up the FRG official circles' initiative. To this day I have noticed no signs of any special desire on the Europeans' part to follow the FRG's proposal...Yes, I am disappointed."

Obediently playing up to the U.S. commander in chief, NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington said a few days later in the Italian newspaper CORRIERA DELLA SERA: "In my opinion, everything which can create among Americans the opinion that we no longer need them and intend to act independently would only cause harm." And in turn he urged the West European countries belonging to the NATO military bloc to use their "joint efforts" with the United States to create antimissiles...

Witches' Sabbath in Munich

Inasmuch as hesitation and apprehension persist in the West European NATO countries, the supporters of "EuroSDI" have brought in their heavy propaganda artillery, so to speak. In the first days of March another conference of the so-called "Wehrkunde" military-scientific society, which in the FRG is rightly called the "Areopagus of cold war," was held in Munich.

This time 150 high-ranking "Atlanticists" came, including F. Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense, P. Nitze, the President's special consultant; M. Glitmann, leader of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks; General Rogers himself; E. Teller, the notorious "father of the U.S. hydrogen bomb;" and the defense ministers of a number of West European countries. Their meeting immediately acquired the nature of a veritable sabbath of witches practising hellish plans.

The tone to this sabbath was set by F. Ikle, who, West German television reprinted, "expressed himself in favor of achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union" and urged Washington's allies to join in the implementation of SDI. FRG Defense Minister M. Woerner followed him and "warned NATO of the danger (!) of the all-engulfing desire to eliminate nuclear armaments." (I am quoting here and subsequently from the AP report). And he immediately "expressed himself in favor of implementing a European program similar to the U.S. 'star wars' program."

E. Teller, a fanatical supporter of the "star wars" idea, also performed his piece. Obviously anxious to inspire the participants in this sabbath, THE WASHINGTON POST reports, on 3 March he boastfully "stated that it is possible 'quite easily' to destroy Soviet near-range missiles" "with the aid of a laser reflected from a mirror put into space."

These bellicose speeches, however, failed to generate enthusiasm in West Europe, even among the circles of convinced supporters of military partnership with the United States. Thus in Bonn, addressing a press conference, H. Schaefer, the Free Democratic Party Bundestag faction's expert on foreign policy, urged the U.S. President to disassociate himself from F. Ikle's statement. H. Scheer, the Social Democratic Party of Germany Bundestag faction's disarmament expert, also protested this Washington envoys statement. H. Ehmke, deputy chairman of this same faction, rejected M. Woerner's "EuroSDI" proposal and stated that its implementation would be the cause of the further buildup of armaments in Europe.

Voices of protest were also heard in other West European countries. But all this in no way embarrasses the Washington "hawks" who are acting increasingly openly in the role of the main interested party in creating the "EuroSDI." They are now gambling on the West European military-industrial monopolies' interest in the profits which participation in this business would bring them.

It is no accident that it was General B. Rogers again who in his interview with NEUE OZ OSNABRUCKER ZEITUNG recalled that a few years ago he had suggested creating for research, development, production, and adoption a "pool of West European military concerns" which could "lead to the point where the United States would purchase the necessary combat equipment in (West) Europe at more favorable prices."

In the Chase After Advantageous Orders

Promises of this kind are so to speak balm to the souls of the manufacturers of death who profit from the arms race. And now the military-industrial monopolies of the FRG, Britain, France, and several other West European states are rushing to develop plans to take part in both the U.S. SDI and the "EuroSDI."

The FRG monopolies have begun to invest considerable sums in the appropriate developments. The West German press reports that the Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blowm (MBB) firm for instance, together with the Nuernberg firm of (Dil), has spent DM25 million on the creation of a high-energy laser model. MBB is preparing to spend about DM100 million on experimental design developments rights up to the series production of this laser.

Their French, British, and other competitors are not lagging behind the FRG military-industrial firms which are now openly boasting that they hope to obtain advantageous orders.

Detailed information on this score was published in the U.S. magazine AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY 16 December 1985. The British firms British Aerospace, GEC, Marconi, and Thorn EMI, the French Matra firm, the Italian strategic technology consortium, which has been joined by eight major aerospace and electronic firms, and others are vying with each other to offer their services as contractors in SDI and "EuroSDI." Such are the facts confirming that "EuroSDI" is nothing but an offshoot of the U.S. "star wars" preparation program in whose creation the Pentagon is interested. Phony arguments that this design accords with the interests of the consolidation of West Europe's "independence" and virtually opposes SDI are built on sand and are made only as a blind.

In reality the "EuroSDI" is nothing but an attempt to create a new type of weapon and therefore to open an additional new channel for the arms race. The implementation of this design sharply destabilizes the situation in Europe and will make it uncontrollable and will not raise but considerably lower the European countries' level of security and bring the threat of nuclear war nearer. Hence the only correct conclusion: Europe's peace-loving forces must redouble their efforts in the struggle against the militarization of space, under whatever mask they try to implement it: SDI or "EuroSDI!"

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR HITS FRG AGREEMENT ON CONTRIBUTION TO SDI

Agreement Signed

LD271758 Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 27 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports: Though the United States and the other NATO countries continue to claim that they are seeking to fold up the arms race, the Governments of the USA and West Germany have today signed an agreement in Washington on West Germany's contribution to the Strategic Defense Initiative. The agreement was signed by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger for the American side and economics Minister Martin Bangemann for West Germany.

West Germany has thus become the third NATO country -- along with Britain and, with some reservations, Italy -- to become involved by Washington in SDI. Washington has dragged its allies in this venture, which poses a mortal danger to mankind, in the hope of exploiting scientists and the technological potentials of those countries, of shifting onto them a considerable share of the astronomic expenditures involved in the fulfilment of the "star wars" program and of making them share responsibility for all the consequences of the program. SDI is the main obstacle on the way to progress at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons. The USA describes it as purely defensive and even claims that it will eventually lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

In reality, however, the administration is pressing ahead with the development of a space weapons system and getting ready to deploy it along with feverishly building up the nuclear arms potential and developing new-generation nuclear weapons, such as the MX first-strike missile, Trident-2 and the Midgetman. The administration has already spent one trillion dollars on America's nuclear rearmament program and is going to spend at least as much more. Symptomatically, Weinberger has stated on more than one occasion that the USA will continue to improve the build up its nuclear weapons, at least until the Pentagon takes delivery of defense systems under SDI. However, these statements do not at all indicate that the Pentagon will agree even then to the dismantling of nuclear armaments.

As senior administration officials have admitted on more than one occasion, the "star wars" program envisions the use of nuclear energy while one of the leading scientists working on SDI, Edward Teller, recently said at the Washington National Press Club that space weapons systems are to be predominantly nuclear.

The NATO countries, which have been dragged by their "senior partner" in the "star wars" program, are objectively blocking success at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons. As for West Germany's contribution to SDI, having joined the "star wars" program, it obviously hopes to secure the opportunity to develop its own advanced nuclear weapons in circumvention of post-war accords. This prospect is hardly likely to cheer even West Germany's NATO allies, at least those in Western Europe.

'Pentagon's Sword-bearer'

LD280027 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1922 GMT 27 Mar 86

[TASS headline--"In Washington's Space Harness"]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Mar (TASS) -- TASS commentator Vladimir Smelov writes: And so the FRG has again come out in the role of the Pentagon's sword-bearer, this time a space one. FRG economics Minister M. Bangemann and Pentagon chief C. Weinberger signed an agreement in Washington today on the participation of West German firms and concerns in the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative", and also an agreement on the so-called "improvement of general technological exchange" between the FRG and the United States. Bonn, having surrendered its national interests to please the militarist ambitions of the United States, has again demonstrated political support for forces which are undermining the edifice of international peace and in every way opposing the efforts, first and foremost of the Soviet Union, to fully deliver mankind from nuclear weapons and from the threat of war, including from space.

Bonn must understand that participation in the Pentagon's space adventure means linking the Federal Republic to a new and most dangerous spiral of the arms race. This is precisely why on the Rhine they are trying so painstakingly to conceal this obvious fact, are trying to pass off the "star wars" program as a panacea for all misfortunes and as a project which is supposedly of a purely defensive nature capable of virtually moving forward the cause of disarmament. Their attempts are in vain: such assertions are clearly intended for simpletons because the Pentagon, as THE WASHINGTON POST emphasizes, views the SDI as "a purely military undertaking".

Taking into consideration the mass protests of the public and the opposition parties in the FRG against linking the country to the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative", and the disagreements on this issue even in the camp of the ruling coalition, Chancellor Kohl is forced to put a brave face on a sorry business. How he has already tried, if only to more convincingly demonstrate the "independence" of his government in resolving questions which are vitally important to the FRG -- questions of war and peace, and also the "purely commercial" nature of the deal on the SDI. And the proof, they say, is available. You see, the agreement on the FRG's participation in "star wars" is not the "memorandum on mutual understanding" on the SDI between the United States and Great Britain, authenticated by the signatures of the ministers of defense of those countries. You see, Kohl sent a "peaceful" minister for economics across the ocean, although the Pentagon wanted, it said, to see the head of the FRG military department instead.

However, the business lies not with ministers and not with the names of agreements, however nice sounding they might be, but in their essence. And it is as follows: Having harnessed itself to the U.S. "star wars" program the FRG has confirmed that it remains one of the most zealous conductors of the militaristic course of the United States and NATO and that it is ready to meet any political and military demands made by Washington to the detriment of the cause of peace and security.

FRG Breaches West Berlin Status

LD281345 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 28 Mar 86

[From "The Round-up of Political Events" program]

[Text] After prolonged negotiations the United States and Federal Germany have signed an accord in Bonn's participation in the "starwars" program. Here are some details:

One of the stumbling blocks which was finally overcome was the participation of West Berlin firms in the American program. West Berlin is supposed to be a demilitarized city, and in line with the allied regulations the city's status has to be observed by the United States, Britain and France. But on Bonn's insistence the status will be breached, providing all of us with a fresh example of how Western commitments and obligations under international accords are easily violated. Federal Germany has become the second West European nation after Britain to participate in the "star Wars" program, a fact which raises a number of crucial questions.

Number 1: So-called Western democracies with their much touted concern for such values as human rights, dignity, freedom and what-not are in the forefront of the ugly and despicable business of making more and more new weapons. The most vulgar argument heard from all those people, who claim they're not modern barbarians but well-dressed, well-educated and good-mannered executives, managers and politicians, is that progress will stop and humanity will suffer a terrible setback if Moscow and those so-called nuts from antiwar movements have their way and there is nobody to develop, build and deploy space weapons.

Number 2: Some smart people in Washington who claim that star wars is fundamental research don't believe a word of what they're saying. Who will draw the line between research, laboratory and field testing? Who is going to tell all those firms, companies and corporations when to stop and that enough is enough? And how serious is it to claim that the military-industrial complex will voluntarily part with multibillion dollar profits offered by new arms for the sake of honoring for instance the Soviet-American ABM Treaty of 1972, which is seen in Washington as a sheet of paper and a barrier to the further escalation of the arms race?

Number 3: It is hardly a coincidence that those who oppose banning nuclear tests are the most ardent supporters of star wars. In the United States, Great Britain and Federal Germany, top government officials are well aware that such a ban will not lead to any of those apocalyptic scenarios of the West falling apart under a conventional Soviet onslaught that they've been frightening their people with. In Washington, London and Bonn they have nothing else to offer to the public as a justification for the ongoing nuclear madness. According to reports from Washington, the U.S.-West German accord on star wars was expected to be signed at a low-key private ceremony. Why be so bashful if space weapons are such a boon to humanity?

'Dressed in Peaceful Clothing'

OW311112 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; commentary by Boris Parkhomenko]

[Text] It has been officially announced in Bonn that the FRG is ready to sign an agreement with the United States on participating in the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, DIS. Our commentary:

[Parkhomenko] Hello, comrades: FRG Economics Minister Bangermann went to Washington to sign this agreement. In this lies the subtlety. Officially Bonn is rushing to stress that the agreement has an exclusively peaceful, scientific and economic character, and is not at all military. In that case, Defense Minister Woerner would have had to sign it. However, there is one more delicate detail which would alert even the most trusting: The fact is that, by agreement with the United States, most of the clauses of this agreement will not be made public. They will be made known to only a narrow circle of people. A question arises: Why are the cooperation plans of the industrial firms and scientific laboratories of the United States and the FRG made secret if they are, as it is being maintained, of a peaceful nature?

From the very inception of the SDI project, the question of participation by U.S. allies has been a topic for bitter debate and the object of mass protests. Realistically thinking politicians, scientists, and military specialists, including those in the West, have often spoken about the aggressive trend of this so-called initiative. The FRG is no exception.

The opposition representatives in the Bundestag -- the Social Democrats and the Greens -- are not the only ones to have censured their country's plan to participate in the "star wars" program. Many deputies from the ruling coalition have also voiced doubts as to the correctness of the Kohl government's decision. This is why supporters of SDI have had to hide the content of this unpopular agreement from FRG society. This is why it has been dressed in peaceful clothing.

Marches Protest Agreement

LD282219 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Commentary by Viktor Levin]

[Excerpts] In West Germany the traditional Easter peace marches have begun. According to reports from Hamburg, one of the main slogans under which peace supporters are marching is the demand for the United States to abandon plans to prepare "star wars!" The linking of the FRG to the U.S. program of strategic defense research is also condemned. Here is our station commentary from Viktor Levin:

The participants in the Easter marches had not yet set off when the official spokesman of the FRG Government Ost reproached them for allegedly whipping up hysteria and sowing panic. No one is threatening peace, Ost assured. The Bonn government equally light-heartedly interprets its joining the U.S. "star wars" program as a contribution to peace. Repeating the stale ideas of U.S. official propaganda, Bonn affirms that

the SDI is a completely defensive program and its implementation will serve the interests of consolidating peace. This logic, as you see, is the same as in Ost's affirmations, but its contradiction with facts and good sense is so obvious that not only antiwar movement activists, but also many politicians of parties represented in the Bundestag are critical of the SDI itself and the Federal Republic's joining it.

That the SDI has nothing in common with defense, that spreading the arms race to space threatens to increase the danger of nuclear war sharply and will certainly disrupt nuclear disarmament has been argued repeatedly. Peace supporters understand this. They understand it and firmly oppose SDI, and it is natural that those who take on the role of accomplices of the U.S. Administration are under fire from their criticism.

Europe, and all Europe, can and must make its contribution to the cause of strengthening peace. In this vital process history itself gives it a special role. Wide circles of public opinion -- and this is shown in particular by the Easter peace marches beginning in Europe -- recognize this responsibility and are quite determined to make a contribution to consolidating peace. But, you would certainly not say this of the governments of a number of countries. The Bonn government spokesman Ost, with his statement that no one is threatening peace also is trying to mask the indisputable fact that FRG policy, expressed in aiding and abetting U.S. militarist ambitions, is a factor not strengthening peace, but undermining it. This policy corresponds to the interests of certain circles in the United States but fundamentally contradicts the interests of the FRG itself and Europe as a whole.

'Marching Away From Disarmament'

LD290828 Moscow TASS in English 0822 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, March 29 TASS -- Two agreements have been signed in Washington on West German involvement in the U.S. "star wars" program, Vladimir Mikhaylov said in PRAVDA today.

He said one regulates West German firms' activities on research into space strike weapons, while the other, "on improving general technology exchanges", defines the procedures for providing Bonn with information from the backwoods of U.S. technology.

The agreements were signed by the economics minister for West Germany and by the defense secretary for the United States, the commentator said, adding: "The Pentagon chief's participation underlines the military nature of the agreements. It is confirmed also by their being classified and not subject to publication."

Bonn's initial plan to wrap up the deal in a general accord on "technology exchanges", Mikhaylov said, was rejected by Washington. The U.S. advocates of an arms race in outer space, he explained, need unqualified backing from the allies.

So nearly all camouflage was brushed aside and the basic intention came to view. It is to harness the West German industrial and research potential to further highly dangerous plans for making near-terrestrial space into another "battleground". This step by the Kohl government is in the opposite direction from the aim it has proclaimed in its European policy, that of "achieving greater security with fewer arms", the commentary said.

"The classified deal between Bonn and Washington followed the deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear-missile weapons in Western Europe and was summed up in a joint statement by the leaders of the Communist parties of West Germany and the United States as a further step to escalate the arms race," Mikhaylov said.

"Bonn's action cannot be explained by its servility to Washington alone, although there has been much of it as well. Taking a look at who in West Germany pressed from the very beginning for its unconditional joining the SDI will make many things clear. They included a group of politicians led by Strauss and closely connected with the military-industrial complex. They included old companies, manufacturers of deadly weapons of destruction, acting in collusion with new ones. It is they that are reviving the idolatry of weapons in their country in the secret dream of being finally able themselves, under the cover of SDI-related activities, to launch the production of strategic arms of the new, 'star wars' generation as well."

"Regrettably, the Federal Republic of Germany, or more correctly its present government, appears to be now marching away from disarmament and detente. These steps cannot be concealed by any slick rhetoric. People see in them the known, still remembered habits of German militarism which has caused so many calamities in Europe," the commentary said.

Peace Marchers Oppose Ties

LD301940 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Bonn March 30 TASS -- Anti-war rallies and demonstrations held within the traditional spring "peace marches" were held in more than seventy cities and other populated localities in West German today. Political figures, trade unionists and representatives of mass public organizations demanded that the authorities remove U.S. nuclear weapons from the country's territory and give up participation in the American "star wars" programme.

A protest demonstration, marked by the slogans denouncing preparations for nuclear war, was held near the U.S. Embassy in Bonn. It was simultaneously announced that anti-war activists started a peace march into the region of Hasselbach, the site of American cruise missiles, in protest at the deployment of American first-strike weapons on West German territory.

A statement by the Greens Party Bundestag faction was released here. The party's parliamentarians described as a revolting provocation police outrages against peace marchers in Wackersdorf, Bavaria. A symbolic "peace camp" in that area was crushed and 279 inhabitants of the tent settlement were arrested.

Hamburg DPA Cites APN

LD311655 Hamburg DPA in German 1612 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Berlin, 31 Mar (DPA) -- The Soviet Union views the inclusion of Berlin in any work connected with SDI as a violation of the four-power agreement. In a commentary carried by APN in Berlin on Easter Monday it says that it is well known that "West Berlin has demilitarized status." And on those grounds alone it can not be included in any work which has the aim of creating weapons. The United States knows that for that reason it has not wanted any "Berlin clauses and formulas" and has only agreed to them after long hesitation.

APN continues, it is "patently obvious" that any work in West Berlin which in the end contributes to the creation of weapons systems which could be used against one of the parties to the agreement is not permitted and could result in complications.

SDI supporters in the FRG tried to justify their actions by saying that West Berlin is allegedly included in the technology agreement and not in the agreement concerning the participation of companies in SDI. However, this is nothing more than an "inappropriate excuse." The technology agreement which was concluded simultaneously and in direct connection with the SDI agreement has to touch on security interests and consequently belongs to those international treaties and agreements whose validity the FRG could not extend to Berlin, as it says unequivocally in the four-power agreement.

"All evasions," such as firms participating in SDI will deal with the Economics Ministry and not the Defense Ministry, are not relevant in this respect. It remains a fact that West Berlin is to be included in work which was 100 percent part of the security field, "or to put it more exactly, is aimed at undermining security and stability."

Soviet Official Discusses Repercussions

LD011040 Hamburg DPA in German 1004 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr (DPA/VWD) -- The SDI contracts concluded between the Federal Republic and the United States will probably not strain the forthcoming session of the German-Soviet Economic Commission. Georgiy Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister, stressed at a press conference in Moscow today that the concluding of the SDI contracts is not an economic topic and would hardly be raised in such a context. However, this set of treaties will "inevitably" affect the condition of German-Soviet relations, Korniyenko said.

The commission is to meet in the Soviet capital on Thursday and Friday [6-7 April]. The Bonn delegation will be headed by Economics Minister Martin Bangemann. Subjects to be discussed at the session include the consumer goods and services sectors.

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CSO: 5200/1318

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR HITS TELLER'S CALL FOR ABM LASERS IN TURKEY

PM190850 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Mar 86 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Colonel A. Yuryev in "Pertinent Notes": "Yet Another of Washington's Dangerous Ventures"]

[Text] The Soviet Union's proposal to create a comprehensive international security system, which was put forward at the 27th CPSU Congress, is widely supported and approved by the world public. Even the uninitiated in questions of peace policy are today starting to recognize that our planet is really too small and fragile for a nuclear confrontation.

The U.S. "Star Wars" plans and the U.S. attempt to spread the arms race to space arouse concern among the peoples. If space becomes a springboard for military confrontation all mankind's hopes of removing the threat of nuclear war and eliminating nuclear and other destruction weapons will come to nothing.

In the Soviet-U.S. joint statement the Soviet and U.S. leaders pledged not to strive to achieve military superiority and reaffirmed their intention to step up the achievement of effective accords aimed at preventing an arms race in space and ending it on earth.

The Soviet Union is reaffirming this accord through its actions. The USSR's specific proposals on banning the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms are on the negotiating table in Geneva.

As for the U.S. side, instead of carrying out the Geneva accord, it is inventing various excuses intended to "prove" the impossibility of banning space arms. Essentially the United States advocates that the sides discuss the procedure for creating [sozdaniye] and deploying "Star Wars" weapons. In other words, it would like to replace the question of preventing an arms race in space with the question of the permissibility of deploying space strike arms.

In no way do U.S. ruling circles wish to abandon attempts to achieve military-strategic superiority. This was confirmed for the umpteenth time by an early March Munich conference by ranking representatives from the NATO countries, at which pride of place was given to questions of the U.S. so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative." Speaking at the conference, F. Ikle, U.S. under-secretary of defense, persistently pressed for the accelerated implementation

of the "Star Wars" program and for more active participation by West European firms and concerns in it. The Washington spokesman openly called for the intensification of confrontation with the USSR in all avenues and for the achievement of military superiority over it. In this connection he reaffirmed that the United States intends to continue to build up its strategic offensive arms in every possible way while simultaneously working to create [sozdaniye] a "space antimissile shield." Ikle's speech even disconcerted certain ranking politicians from the U.S. NATO allies.

A provocative speech by E. Teller--one of the authors of the draft SDI--on Washington's schemes to use Turkish territory in its militarist preparations produced a particular sensation among those present. He stated in particular that Soviet missiles can only be destroyed by laser light beamed from ground stations and reflected by a special mirror in space. To that end it is desirable to site the station near to the Soviet missiles in an area with good climatic conditions. "If we could site four laser stations on Turkish territory, where there are many fine days and where the atmosphere is clear, Turkey would be the most important country for waging 'Star Wars.'" Moreover, according to Teller, Turkish territory is also an ideal place from which Soviet missiles could be destroyed even before launch.

This statement by a U.S. spokesman is a reflection of the White House administration's invariable course of arrogating special rights and military advantages and is a blatant manifestation of its policy of crude diktat and interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states. The question arises: Can such statements be made without the Turkish side's consent?

Clearly, the U.S. ruling circles are striving at all costs to hitch their allies to their aggressive policy in order to make the process of creating [sozdaniye] and deploying space strike arms irreversible, and, consequently, to put insuperable obstacles in the way of eliminating nuclear weapons. That is why "it is extremely necessary," as M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Party Congress, "to seek a realistic solution before it is too late which would act as a guarantee against the arms race being transferred to space. We must not permit the 'Star Wars' program to be used as an incentive for a further arms race and as an obstacle in the way of radical disarmament." This is the urgent call of the times. Sophisticated ventures aimed at obtaining military superiority accord neither with the spirit of the times nor with the commitments made by the United States. Certain U.S. NATO allies are clearly pondering these statements by U.S. figures.

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CSO: 5200/1318

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USSR REPORTS SDI PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN CONDUCTED IN JAPAN

LD311238 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 31 Mar 86

[From the "International Diary" program; presented by Nikolay Agayants]

[Text] Foreign news agencies report the arrival in the United States of a major delegation of Japanese experts who are to draw up final recommendations to their government on linking up the Land of the Rising Sun to the U.S. "star wars" program. In reports from Washington and Tokyo AFP asserts that this issue has virtually been settled: It is just a question of the timetable. The opinion is also being expressed that a corresponding agreement will be signed during the forthcoming visit across the ocean by Prime Minister Nakasone, which will be preceded by a meeting between him and Weinberger, the U.S. defense secretary, in Tokyo. Here is my colleague, Vladimir Pasko:

Unfortunately there are more than sufficient grounds for predictions of this kind. It is known that sympathy for the U.S. so-called Strategic Defense Initiative was expressed by Tokyo way back in January of last year, during Prime Minister Nakasone's visit to the United States. He described the idea of creating space weapons as interesting and promising. Subsequent events have shown that these words were not just a compliment for the militarist project. The whole of the past period in Japan has been marked by a powerful propaganda campaign in favor of involving the country in it. Practical steps aimed at the same this have also be implemented. These include first and foremost the agreement concluded with the United States on handing over military technology. Of great importance, too, have been the trips by two representative missions which have visited Pentagon locations where the development [razrabotka] of space weapons is carried out.

With their customary, narrowly practical approach, the Americans do not conceal the motives behind their interest in getting Tokyo involved in their dangerous venture. We look upon Tokyo as the cheapest supplier, Perle, the assistant U.S. defense secretary, and Abrahamson, the head of the "star wars" program, frankly told journalists a few days ago. But what advantages will Japan get from this?

In working on public opinion the SDI supporters there have placed the main emphasis on the fact that participation in it is a minimal sacrifice in easing the trade contradictions with the United States, and that this will supposedly become a powerful impulse for the development of advanced technology in Japan itself, leading allegedly to the strengthening of its position as a power with worldwide influence.

But the example of Japan itself places these arguments in doubt. For it is not difficult to see that it owes its own rapid rebirth and emergence in the front line of

scientific and technical progress primarily to the fact that by virtue of constitutional restrictions it was less closely linked than others with military business, to the respect of the world community, to the declaration of its three nonnuclear principles; not to produce, not to have, and not to bring in nuclear weapons.

These are now being undermined. Possibilities are being sought for getting around them. Tokyo states that it is not going to regard space weapons as nuclear even if they involve the use of nuclear energy. According to the government, SDI will embrace a wide circle of research that is not connected to nuclear aspects, and so possible involvement in the program will not be a violation of the nonnuclear principles. It has been declared that these principles concern only the territory of the country and do not therefore extend to Japanese research carried out beyond its borders.

No matter what they say, however, the facts cannot be changed. The very concept of "star wars" is linked directly with nuclear weapons. And joining in it means casting aside both the nonnuclear obligations and other important obligations that Japan has taken upon itself concerning the use of space for peaceful purposes and banning the export of arms -- the very same principles that are ensuring respect for Japan in the world, and not just respect, but security. Is it not too much to pay for the dubious hope of being able to ease trade restrictions by the United States?

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CSO: 5200/1318

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

MOSCOW VIEWS JAPANESE SCIENTISTS' OPPOSITION TO SDI

OW260536 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Igor Yelskiy commentary]

[Excerpts] The Science Council of Japan has voiced its opposition to the U.S. space militarization plan, better known as the star wars plan. In this connection, Moscow Radio commentator (Igor Yelskiy) made the following comment:

The refusal to participate in the realization of the SDI -- Strategic Defense Initiative -- plan, announced by this authoritative organization of Japanese scientists, was a reaction to the increasingly persistent attempt of Tokyo's official authorities to draw Japan into the realization of the star wars plan, which is dangerous to the cause of peace.

According to YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Washington is trying to lay a heavy financial burden for the realization of SDI on Japan and other allies. This was disclosed in an interview with (?Edward Teller), physicist and one of the advocates of the militarization of outer space, who is close to the White House. (?Teller's) statement corroborates the fact that the Pentagon -- the U.S. Defense Department -- intends to obtain an unlimited amount of Japanese high technology and capital. It also endorses the apprehension entertained by Japanese academic and industrial circles, which are worried that they may not be given anything in return. The most important thing is that the militarily aggressive star wars plan will not bring any benefit to the security of either the United States or its allies.

According to a recent opinion poll conducted among American physicists, a majority believes that the realization of SDI will lead to an expansion of nuclear armament.

Japanese scientists share their belief, and the statement by the Science Council of Japan declares that Japanese scientists, who represent a nation which experienced the tragedy of atomic-bomb attacks, find it impossible to help the star wars plan.

There is an alternative to the dangerous star wars plan. It is the Soviet Union's constructive and definite proposal, calling for cooperation in the peaceful development of space and the use of the gains in this sphere for the well-being of all mankind.

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CSO: 5200/1318

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR COL GEN CHERVOV INTERVIEW CRITICIZES EUROPEAN SDI

AU270608 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 21 Mar 86 p 6

[Interview with USSR Colonel General N. Chervov by APN military commentator V. Morozov: "The Dangerous Nature of the European Variant of the So-Called Strategic Defense Initiative. The Threat of Increased Tension in Europe"-- date and place not given; initial paragraph is paper's introduction]

[Text] The idea of creating a West European antimissile defense has been of late actively assessed [posudzuje] on the pages of the West European countries' press.

High-ranking NATO generals -- B. Rogers, M. Werner, and W. Altenburg -- have already spoken on that theme. At the request of the NOVOSTI military commentator V. Morozov, prominent Soviet military-political expert Colonel General N. Chervov takes a stance on some questions mentioned in an interview by B. Rogers, commander in chief of the NATO Armed Forces in Europe (in the NEUE OSNABRUECKER ZEITUNG newspaper) and W. Altenburg, general inspector of the FRG Bundeswehr (in DER SPIEGEL magazine).

[Morozov] What can be said about the B. Rogers' and W. Altenburg's statements about the idea of a European variant of the American Strategic Defense Initiative -- the "European Defense Initiative"?

[Chervov] Such propagation of a new "idea" deliberately confuses people. What is involved here is not at all the modernization of the air defense system. The NATO bloc assesses the creation of a variant of a West European antimissiles defense. Rogers openly says that Western Europe is allegedly not to wait for some sort of a "spinoff" ["odpad"] or "secondary raw materials" of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, but must itself create a corresponding antimissile system. Altenburg, too, sings the same song.

What will it lead to? To a further arms buildup, of course. DER SPIEGEL magazine notes that the "West and East will arrive at the new equilibrium of fear, but on a substantially more complicated level and by expending much greater resources." It would seem that such a prospect of the realization of the plan of the Strategic Defense Initiative is, on the whole, clear. However, Altenburg turns everything upside down and asserts that "this does not at all have to become a new round of feverish arms buildup,... but if you want to, these are incentives for disarmament... this is an absolutely new moment in thinking." This is a strange naivete! Such myths are refuted by reality. After

all, one envisages the development and production of new weapons, and this -- in a normal human language -- is called feverish arms buildup.

One cannot run away from the truth and pretend that creating new antimissile weapons according to the variant of the so-called European Defense Initiative are a "blessing" for Western Europe. When we look the truth in the eye, fomenting a feverish arms buildup in yet another respect would increase tension in Europe and lead to the growth of the threat of war. Strengthening the security of Western Europe should not be sought along the line of the so-called American Strategic Defense Initiative and European Defense Initiative, but along the line of a complete liquidation of nuclear weapons on earth, along the line of ridding the European Continent of nuclear and chemical weapons. The proposals submitted by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement of 15 January 1986 are opening realistic possibilities for a successful course in that respect.

[Morozov] General Rogers speaks about U.S. "restraint" within the framework of the program of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative which, allegedly, is restricted to research only. What can be said in this connection?

[Chervov] In this respect, Mr Rogers has forgotten two things: The first one is his own statement in the French magazine SCIENCE ET VIE (October 1985) that in the U.S. "star wars" program, "any restraint or lagging behind the USSR did not and does not exist." To prove it, he submits these facts: "When I was the Army's chief of staff, all scientific research work in the sphere of antimissile defense was subordinated to me...We received the order: A. to speed up scientific research work so as to prevent the Russians from achieving superiority; B. to develop a prototype and test it."

"In 1979, when I left that post in connection with the transfer to NATO, we achieved such success that, as it was envisaged, we could stop one fired bullet with the help of another fired bullet." Further, Rogers openly states that the United States has never halted research in the sphere of antimissile defense and has not limited it, that the work has continued at full speed also after the signing of the agreement on antimissile defense in 1972. "The Strategic Defense Initiative," Rogers says, "is not something new that has just been invented; it is already an old idea."

That is the way it is -- in black and white. Washington officials blather about the "restraint" of the United States, and he, Rogers, refutes everything. "That is cheap propaganda," he said in October 1985. It is not clear why Rogers has now made a 180-degree turn and has also begun speaking about "restraint," by which he refutes his own words.

The second circumstance is the existing situation. Rogers obviously knows that the Strategic Defense Initiative ranks in the Pentagon among those military strategic programs (with the MX ICBMs, the ballistic missiles on submarines of the Trident system, and the strategic B-1B bombers) having highest priority. The administration's budget documents state openly that the United States, regardless of the course of the Geneva talks and the USSR's standpoint on that issue, will continue all the way to the full development and deployment of the antimissile defense with elements of space bases. The real intentions of the U.S. Administration to accelerate the work on the Strategic Defense Initiative are attested to by the billions of dollars requested for it. For example, for the 1987 fiscal year, the Pentagon alone requests for the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative \$4.8 billion (75 percent more than in the current fiscal year).

The greatest part of the work within the framework of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative is in the stage of experiments and construction of demonstration models for carrying out tests. This activity is at variance with the spirit of the agreement on antimissile defense, and some of them (the tests of an X-ray laser outside the polygons [polygony] of antimissile defense) are at direct variance with the 1972 agreement.

In the work for the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative the main U.S. military-industrial companies, universities, laboratories of leading firms, as well as private research organizations participate. Could one imagine the United States spending (in 5 years) \$26 billion on research to later abandon the idea of "star wars" only because "the Russians will be against their deployment"? It is also ridiculous to think that \$26 billion would be earmarked only to resolve a theoretical question whether it is or it is not possible to develop offensive space devices. Weinberger comments on it openly: "I exclude the possibility of relinquishing strategic defense, be it at the research stage or at the deployment stage." The U.S. President himself declared on 7 February 1986 that he will do everything he can for the continuation of research and tests within the framework of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative.

Mr Rogers obviously knows all this. Therefore it is not clear why it was necessary to mix up everything like that. Perhaps he has received the order from Washington to rehabilitate himself somehow for the statements in SCIENCE ET VIE. Or his task was to help the U.S. Administration to more cleverly circumvent the new Soviet initiatives which propose to Europe and all people not "star wars," but a world without nuclear weapons.

[Morozov] According to Rogers' view, in case the East and the West would succeed in creating effective defense systems, that is, their own "space shields," "general tranquility" would prevail and none of the sides would need nuclear weapons. What is your opinion?

[Chervov] A simultaneous creation of "space shields" in the East and West will lead to a very unstable, critical situation. The following is involved:

If one of the sides deploys offensive and defensive systems, and the other has only offensive, in that case the first one gains a marked strategic superiority and the possibility of launching a disarming nuclear strike. In such a situation the reduction of strategic offensive weapons loses sense for the other side. It must perfect and develop them in order to maintain the possibility to renew the strategic equilibrium. This is the elementary logic of nuclear counterweight, based on the objectively existing interdependence of offensive and defensive strategic systems.

But also if the two sides had offensive and defensive systems the situation would be worse than if the two sides had only offensive weapons. Calculations reveal that at a minimum, very small advantages of one of the sides in the effectiveness of its defensive system immediately destabilize the entire situation. Such a situation exists also when the level of offensive weapons is markedly reduced. In other words, with both sides having "space shields," reductions of strategic offensive systems lose their value, because such reduction will no longer guarantee the stability of the situation to the sides, particularly when one of the sides clearly wants to gain superiority in defensive systems, such as the United States does it now.

At a press conference in Geneva, M. Gorbachev presented an original example of a situation when both sides have "space shields": "Imagine what the consequences of even a coincidental collision in outer space would be. Let us say that something has separated from a rocket, its warhead of the rocket booster would tear off and collide with a grouping of these space weapons. Signals will be sent, and all this can be interpreted as the other side's attempt to destroy these weapons. Computers go into action, and in such a case politicians cannot do anything sensible. And we will become slaves to these events."

We know the tragic fate of the Challenger space shuttle. If that were to happen with the two sides' "space shields" in existence, the computers of the American "space shields" would begin working immediately. And how would it end?

A joint deployment of "space shields" -- that is a deceptive course, which creates the illusion of strengthening the security of the sides, but in reality undermines it. The USSR favors a radical reduction of nuclear weapons, but without deploying extensive systems of antimissile defense and without developing offensive space weapons. Only such a course can lead to the total liquidation of nuclear weapons and the stabilization of the situation.

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CSO: 5200/1318

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

WASHINGTON ENVOY BRIEFS NAKASONE ON SDI PROGRAM

OW250101 Tokyo KYODO in English 0053 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO--Japanese Ambassador to Washington Nobuo Matsunaga has told Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone that the United States is anxious for a decision by Japan on whether it will participate in the star wars research program. Matsunaga is in Tokyo to prepare for Nakasone's visit to the U.S. starting April 12.

The envoy called on Nakasone Monday night and said, according to officials, that while Washington understands that Tokyo's participation in Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) research is a matter for Japan to decide by itself, and that an SDI study mission is now in the U.S., the U.S. Government thinks that "the sooner the decision, the better."

The U.S. Government says that Japanese participation in the SDI would give the U.S. more bargaining power in negotiations with the Soviet Union, the ambassador reportedly told Nakasone.

A study mission consisting of both government officials and business representatives is in the U.S. to study the feasibility of Japanese firms participating in the research program into the space-based defense system.

The envoy also reported to Nakasone that protectionist sentiment still prevails in the U.S. Congress over the country's trade deficit with Japan.

The trade friction is expected to feature prominently in Nakasone's talks with President Ronald Reagan in Washington.

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CSO: 5260/063

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

ABE: SDI PARTICIPATION NOT NAKASONE'S DECISION ALONE

OW291417 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] At a session of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Councilors held today, Foreign Minister Abe stated that the issue of participation in SDI -- Strategic Defense Initiative -- research is not one that can be unilaterally decided by Prime Minister Nakasone.

In his reply to a question by Mr Yutaka Hata of the DSP, Foreign Minister Abe said that the Japanese Government would not state its decision on SDI research participation during Prime Minister Nakasone's visit to the United States, scheduled for next month. He added that this issue could not be unilaterally decided by Prime Minister Nakasone, and that proper procedures should be carefully followed in dealing with it. The decision should be based on a report, to be submitted by a study group leaving for the United States soon, and, if necessary, consultations should be held among Cabinet members concerned with the issue.

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CSO: 5260/065

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

JAPANESE EXPERTS MISSION LEAVES FOR SDI TALKS IN U.S.

OW290937 Tokyo KYODO in English 0856 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 29 KYODO -- A large Japanese mission comprising 46 technical experts from 21 companies left Tokyo for Washington Saturday on a mission to explore the possibility of Japan's participation in research on the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). The group, which also includes government officials, will be briefed on the space-based antimissile project, known as the "Star Wars" program, by officials at the SDI Bureau of the Defense Department Monday.

The mission will split up into three groups to visit research institutions and enterprises throughout the U.S. It is the third such mission to be sent to the United States by Japan.

The government has said it will decide whether to take part in the research project after receiving a report by the mission.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has urged the Japanese government to decide to participate in the program as soon as possible.

The mission, which will stay in the United States until April 9, will submit an interim report to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone before he leaves for Washington on April 12.

Private enterprises taking part in the mission included major electronics companies such as Hitachi Ltd., Toshiba Corp., Sony Corp., Fujitsu Ltd., Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, and high-technology firms related to the aviation industry.

The mission also includes representatives from the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Agency and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

After an inspection tour, the officials are scheduled to return to Washington for working-level consultations with their American counterparts.

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CSO: 5260/068

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

JAPAN: KOMEITO'S TAKEIRI COMMENTS ON TRADE ISSUE, SDI

OW280943 Tokyo KYODO in English 0922 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 28 KYODO--Komeito Chairman Yoshikatsu Takeiri called Friday for expansion of domestic demand to diffuse trade disputes stemming from Japan's huge trade surplus. The leader of Japan's second largest opposition party summed up to reporters his 12-day visit to the United States earlier this month.

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige urged Japan to map out a clear import promotion plan similar to its export drives in the past, he said. Protectionist and market-opening pressures appeared to have eased in the U.S., yet they are there "under the water," Takeiri said. Americans are dissatisfied with Japan's slow efforts to correct trade imbalance, he added.

Takeiri, chairman of Komeito for the past 20 years, made an official visit to the U.S. March 2-21, his first visit to that country in 14 years. During the visit, he met Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The visit was useful but made him feel Komeito should send a mission to the U.S. at least once a year to keep up-to-date on the U.S. situation, Takeiri said.

In the press meeting at the Japan National Press Club, Takeiri said Americans explained about the technical aspect of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and over-the-horizon (OTH) radar which the Japanese Government plans to deploy.

He denied reports that he had become positive about SDI after the U.S. visit.

Komeito should not change its basic prudent attitude regarding SDI, Takeiri said.

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CSO: 5260/066

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

USSR ROME EMBASSY STATEMENT ON ITALY'S SDI ROLE

LD311529 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 31 Mar 86

["Soviet Embassy Statement"--TASS item identifier]

[Text] [no dateline as received] -- The USSR Embassy in Rome made a statement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy over the decision taken by the Italian Government to allow Italian companies to participate in the implementation of the SDI program. This step, the statement says, can only be viewed as the gradual dragging of Italy into the implementation of the U.S. plans to militarize outer space. The Italian Government cannot help realizing that the fulfilment of these plans, aimed at breaking the existing military-strategic parity and achieving military superiority over the USSR, is bound to project the arms race into space and to destabilize the strategic situation, and also that it contradicts the provisions of the ABM Treaty concluded in perpetuity [as received] in 1972 and constituting the foundation of the process of the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments.

The above-stated actions by the Italian Government obviously run counter to its repeated assurances about readiness to promote the ending of the arms race, the lowering of the level of military confrontation in the world and in Europe, and to facilitate the successful progress and positive completion of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms. Hardly do they tally also with the Italian Government's statement in favour of strict observance of the 1972 ABM Treaty. The present crucial situation in the world, as it was stressed in the statement, calls for urgent efforts to prevent the spreading of the arms race to outer space and curb it on earth, and each country should display a heightened sense of responsibility as regards its practical steps and decisions.

The hope was expressed that the Italian Government would display a proper attitude to this statement and draw conclusions really testifying to Italy's adherence to the cause of limiting and reducing nuclear arms and preventing an arms race in outer space. Such a position would fully accord with the vital interests of all states in Europe, Italy included.

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CSO: 5200/1318

SDI AND SPACE ARMS

WEINBURGER'S AUSTRALIA VISIT PROMPTS SDI DEBATE

Cabinet Divided

EK070149 Hong Kong AFP in English 0133 GMT 7 Apr 86

[By David Barnett]

[Text] Canberra, April 7 (AFP)--U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger is to begin a three day visit to Australia Wednesday amid controversy over a U.S. invitation to take part in research for the "Star Wars" project. Australian Defense Minister Kim Beazley has welcomed the coming visit, Mr Weinberger's first here since 1982, as a demonstration of the continuing strength of the defence cooperation between Australia and the United States. "It will present an excellent opportunity to explore concrete measures for maintaining and strengthening defense cooperation between the two countries," he said. Mr Weinberger is to meet with Prime Minister Bob Hawke and other government leaders for discussions on bilateral, regional and global defense and security issues, Mr Beazley said.

But the U.S. Defense secretary's visit comes amid growing controversy here over President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), commonly known as "Star Wars". The Australian Labor Government has consistently maintained a public position of opposition to the "Star Wars" program, but has not yet formally responded to a U.S. invitation for allies to take part in SDI research. The Australian Government is expected to respond to the invitation during Mr Weinberger's visit, observers said.

Meanwhile, a confidential cable from Australian Ambassador in Washington, Rawdon Dalrymple, which was leaked to the SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, points to the advantage for industrial research if Australia took part in the SDI program. The Hawke Government opposes the SDI program on the grounds that it is inconsistent with its disarmament policy. The issue has divided Foreign Minister Bill Hayden, who has identified the government firmly with disarmament, and Industry and Commerce Minister John Button, who is said to favor some Australian participation in SDI research.

Mr Button takes the view that it would be impossible to prevent Australian companies that have cooperative agreements with U.S. firms from taking part in research which might have defense applications, reports said.

Controversy has also developed over the hard line taken by Mr Hawke and Mr Hayden in support of the Nicaraguan Government at a time when President Reagan was trying to mobilize congressional support for an aid program for the right-wing guerrillas opposing the Managua Government. Their views were formally conveyed to the State Department last month, angering U.S. officials, reports from Washington published here said.

Mr Weinberger is visiting Australia as part of a tour of the Asia-Pacific region which also included trips to South Korea, the Philippines, Thailand and Japan.

Scientists Urge Rejection

BK020643 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] A group of Australian scientists have urged the federal government to reject participation in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, the so-called "Star Wars" project. The 800-member organization, which is called Scientists Against Nuclear Arms, says the government should ban any research in Australian laboratories which have a clear connection with the "Star Wars" program. It also says the Australian Government should refuse to cooperate with the United States in maintaining secrecy around any "Star Wars" research by private companies.

A spokesman for the group, Dr (Jeff Davies), said in Canberra that the "Star Wars" space defense system would heighten tension between the superpowers and was likely to be used in the so-called nuclear first strike by the United States. Earlier, the prime minister [words indistinct], played down speculations about his government allowing limited Australian involvement in "Star Wars" research. Mr Hawke said the Government was not in any great hurry to make a decision on the matter.

Radio Australia's Canberra office says the issue is expected to be considered by the federal cabinet next week.

Local Firm Reveals Role

BK030705 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 CMT 3 Apr 86

[Excerpt] An Australian company has revealed that it is already developing technology for use in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative Program, the so-called "Star Wars" project. Chairman of (Newtech Development), Mr (Ralph Lyndon James), said in a television interview that his company was involved in developing computer equipment which was resistant to radiation. The work was being done as part of a joint venture with the American company General Motors, the U.S. Navy, and the University of Colorado.

Mr (Lyndon James) said the technology was specifically for use in the "Star Wars" program, but that his company had no direct control over how it would be used.

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CSO: 5200/4317

U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

USSR AWAITS U.S., NATO RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROPOSALS

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 18 Jan 86 p 3

[Article: "Moscow's Appeal"]

[Text] The year 1986 has already entered into history. It has entered as the year of proclamation by the Soviet Union of a program of total liquidation of nuclear weapons in the entire world. This program, presented in the Announcement of CPSU Central Committee Secretary General M. S. Gorbachev, provides for the implementation and completion in three stages of the process of freeing the Earth from nuclear weapons in the next 15 years, before the end of this century.

Back in the dawn of the atomic era, the Soviet Union proposed an agreement on general and total disarmament, so as to channel atomic energy exclusively toward peaceful and constructive purposes. The 40-some post-war years have shown that mankind, which has lived these years without a major war, nevertheless cannot be sure about its future as long as nuclear arsenals are being stockpiled and developed. How many different proposals the Soviet Union has submitted during all these years in order to save the planet which is being carried away into the nuclear abyss by an avalanche of armament! These proposals were for the most part rejected, while the dangerous slippage into nothingness continues. A new threat has begun to hang over the Earth--a threat from space, which the USA wants to turn into a proving ground and base for "star wars."

And in this critical moment in the fate of mankind, Moscow once again sounded the appeal to the countries of the West and primarily the USA to stop and think, to rise above our differences in the name of salvation of the planet, to finally begin the practical liquidation of the nuclear arsenals. Thus, those in the West who have no scarcity of peaceloving words, but who are sparing in peaceloving deeds will this time undergo the decisive test: are they ready to respond to the goodwill of the USSR and to its set of new foreign policy initiatives?

The United Nations Organization has proclaimed the current year to be the International Year of Peace. This is not merely a formal act. It is a major action which obligates us to very much. It obligates us to restraint in the military activity of states; to an active search for means of reducing international tensions and to bettering the situation on our planet; to cooperation

in fair regulation in the "hot spots"--in the Near East, Central America, near Afghanistan, in South Africa and the area of the Persian Gulf; and to a rejection of everything which might complicate an already difficult international situation and to cut off at the root the shoots of mutual understanding and trust which are again sprouting on the rocky soil of confrontation.

The New Year's addresses by M. S. Gorbachev to the American people and of R. Reagan to the Soviet people were good omens for the Year of Peace. Let us take upon ourselves the task of doing away with the threat which hangs over mankind, said the Soviet leader. Let us work together to make this year a Year of Peace, said the American leader. It is important when the announcements of state leaders who embody opposite worlds resound in unison. The problem consists of their also acting in unison when it comes to strengthening mutual peace and international security. The Year of Peace is not only a year for declaration of good intentions. It is primarily a year of practical actions which would bring the international community closer to stopping the arms race and eliminating nuclear weapons, as currently proposed in the Announcement of M. S. Gorbachev. Whether or not the year 1986 will be entered into the post-war chronicle with a positive balance and what evaluation it will receive from world public opinion will depend on whether or not such actions will be taken and whether the "spirit of Geneva" will attain material realization.

The possibilities and chances are evident. They are perhaps the most favorable in recent years, after the impressive achievements in the politics of relaxation of tensions of the 70's. On the threshold of the International Year of Peace, which requires of every state a manifestation of good will and support of the good will of other participants in the world community, we must remind ourselves of these chances.

--The USSR has taken the promise of not being the first to use nuclear weapons.

--The USSR has rejected the concept of placing anti-satellite weapons into space, proposing to the USA that it completely cease on a mutual basis all practical work on the development of anti-satellite systems;

--The USSR has removed from combat readiness in its European section the SS-20 missiles which were additionally deployed in response to the placement of American medium range missiles on the European flank of NATO.

--The USSR has introduced a moratorium on any nuclear blasts, and now, when its time has elapsed, has extended it for another 3 months in the hopes that the USA and other nuclear powers will join in this decision.

All these actions have been taken UNILATERALLY. All of them are a clear testimony to the politics of GOOD EXAMPLE. All of them are supported by world public opinion. Years have passed since some of them, and since others--months. In this time, many decisions have been made in Washington, but not one of them has indicated a desire to take the hand extended by the Soviet Union. Streams of peace-loving rhetoric pour out of the official Washington tribunes, but in them it is futile to seek a positive response to the manifestation of good will

by Moscow or to its constructive signals. Instead, Washington continues to insist on the "right" to a first nuclear strike, makes deals with its NATO allies for the realization of the "star wars" project, builds up its nuclear missile groupings in Western Europe, and continues its nuclear experiments.

After the meeting in Geneva, the Soviet Union dismantled, as it had promised, the stationary SS-20 missile installations in its European section. After Geneva, the USSR informed the U.S. government of its readiness to take the most decisive steps in regard to control over the cessation of nuclear testing--up to on-site checks. After Geneva, the USSR proposed a specific program for ridding mankind of nuclear weapons and nuclear war, and of the fear of it. This was a program for building a system of reliably guaranteed general security. And what has happened in Washington? Alas, after the summit meeting, essentially nothing has been done there which would evidence the decisiveness to act "in the spirit of Geneva." Not one practical step has been taken there in the sphere of security which would correspond to the agreements reached in Geneva.

The support of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear blasts might have been such a practical step, and might have allowed the year 1986 to enter into history as the year of the start of practical curtailment of the nuclear arms race.

The representatives of the Washington administration and certain NATO leaders who reject the appeals by Moscow to transform the peace-loving declarations into the plane of practical policy do not sit idly by. Thus, the U.S. Secretary of State G. Schultz goes to Europe, where with the sweat of his brow he drives wedges into the socialist alliance and shakes his fist at the political-territorial realities of the continent...

Pentagon emissary Dov [Zachaym] goes to NATO staff headquarters in Brussels, in order to announce there that "the European NATO countries should not expect the possibility of reducing their financial efforts in the sphere of defense, even if agreements on the reduction of strategic arsenals are reached in Geneva between the Soviet and American sides." This is how it is... Let them take their example from America, where the White House is asking Congress for "multi-billion dollar allocations to the Pentagon with a simultaneous reduction in numerous domestic programs." Instead of lightening the burden of military expenditures on the NATO allies, a new load is being placed on them—a large increase in the non-nuclear potential in the year 1986...

In Bonn, London and several other capitals of NATO countries they are adapting to Washington's militaristic steps. They are arming themselves to the teeth and striving toward military supremacy. In essence they are falling into adventurism by beginning the arms race in space. They are weaving intrigues against the socialist world, against independent developing countries, and particularly these days against Libya. Yet all the while they are giving cheerful assurances, as does the Bonn Chancellor H. Kohl, that "the ice age is not approaching." It is approaching if they turn matters toward this, if they reject everything rational and constructive which the Soviet Union and its socialist allies propose. It is approaching if they cast their well-substantiated caution to the winds--particularly in regard to the "star wars" program.

Whoever now builds the hummocks of the "cold war" will have to take the responsibility if another "ice age" ensues to replace the warming trend, and the "spirit of Geneva" evaporates.

Some people in the West act as if the U.N. decision on proclaiming 1986 to be the International Year does not apply to them. They do not want this year to become the landmark of true progress on the road to real disarmament and to the creation of a world without weapons or wars. Well, the upcoming months will show whether they are ready in Washington and in the capitals of the other NATO countries to follow the route laid out in Geneva, whether they are ready to confirm their proclaimed peaceful intentions with actions, and whether they are ready to begin the realization of the program of eliminating the nuclear arsenals together with the Soviet Union. Whether or not such readiness will be manifested determines to a large degree whether 1986 will become the year of a real breakthrough toward the better in European and world affairs, or whether it will remain a year of missed chances and unused opportunities.

The Soviet Union hopes that this Year of Peace leads to a peaceful decade and that mankind will enter the 21st century without nuclear weapons and under conditions of peace, trust and cooperation. If this same approach becomes dominant also in the West, the warming trend which has begun will turn into healthful, clear and stable world weather.

12322

CSO: 5200/1268

U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

SOVIET MAJ GEN MONIN ON GORBACHEV'S 15 JANUARY INITIATIVE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jan 86 p 3

[Article by Major General M. Monin, doctor of historical sciences: "In the Interests of All Mankind: Soviet Union Proposes Entering the Third Millennium Without Nuclear Weapons"]

[Text] The outline of the new edition of the CPSU Program states that "the peace-loving foreign policy course developed by the party and continuously implemented by the Soviet state, in combination with the strengthening of the country's defense capability, has ensured for the Soviet people and for most of the planet's population a peaceful life for the duration of the longest period in the 20th century." These words have a deep significance. The Leninist party, being internationalist in its character, directs its activity in the protection of peace and security not only in the interests of the Soviet people, but also in the interests of most of mankind. In this endeavor it encounters the approval and active support not only on the part of the states in the socialist alliance and the world communist movement, but also on the part of the broad popular masses in many countries of the world.

Such approval was clearly manifested in the great interest evoked throughout the entire world by the Statement of CPSU Central Committee Secretary General M. S. Gorbachev, which presents a set of new major foreign policy initiatives. This is a landmark document in the struggle of the Leninist party and the Soviet state for a strong and general peace. The Soviet Union has proposed a specific program of total and comprehensive liquidation of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, the liberation of mankind from the threat of self annihilation, and the provision of reliable security for the present and the coming generations on earth.

Today mankind has no other choice than that between survival and total destruction. The matter has come down to such a limit which requires the greatest sanity and thought in solving problems which touch upon the interests of every people, as well as all peoples together.

The unlimited arms race which is being stepped up by the imperialist countries, and primarily the United States of America, has led to the emergence of a real threat to the very existence of peaceful civilization.

The declaration of entire regions of the world to be "zones of vital interests" of the USA, the development or more and more new military air and naval bases here with placement of nuclear missile weapons, the forced increase of first

strike American nuclear missiles in Western Europe, the intensive preparations for militarization of space in order for the USA to achieve military-strategic supremacy over the Soviet Union and other socialist countries—this is but a partial list of imperialist actions which have led to the emergence of an extremely alarming and volatile situation.

The USSR, acting in close cooperation with the other countries of the socialist alliance, takes a diametrically opposed position on the radical questions of ensuring peace and creating favorable conditions for the survival of all mankind. This position taken by our country is reflected in numerous party documents, and is formulated with all clarity in the outline of the new edition of the CPSU Program and the Announcement of CPSU Central Committee Secretary General M. S. Gorbachev.

The outline of the new edition of the CPSU Program provides for the elimination of the threat of world war and the achievement of general security and disarmament as one of the primary tasks in the sphere of foreign policy.

The outline of the new edition of the CPSU Program stresses that the CPSU will continuously strive toward the implementation of measures leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the cessation of production and liquidation of other types of weapons of mass destruction, the reduction of the armed forces of the states, and the freezing and reduction in the troops and armaments in the most explosively dangerous regions of the planet. The party of Soviet communists stands out in favor of adopting measures for strengthening mutual trust and reducing the risk of emergence of armed conflicts, including those resulting by accident. Only through this means is it possible to bring mankind closer to a situation where the threat of a nuclear catastrophe will no longer hang over the planet like the sword of Damocles. Of the major foreign policy actions of an essential character taken by the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government, the primary one is directed toward eliminating this threat. This is a specific program of total liquidation of nuclear weapons in the entire world, calculated for a precisely defined period of time.

Today, millions of people throughout the world, including also in the USA, are coming to better understand the vital need for solving this problem. It is of primary importance that this understanding is reflected also in the joint Soviet-American announcement adopted at the Geneva Summit Meeting. The document unambiguously states that nuclear war must never be unleashed, and that there can be no victors in it. The catastrophic consequences which may ensue in the case of any conflict between the USSR and the USA are also acknowledged. This makes the task of preventing any war between them—nuclear or conventional—an extremely important one. The Soviet-American summit meeting laid the groundwork for bettering the international situation. However, these prerequisites cannot be realized by themselves. In order to transform them into practical actions capable of changing the political climate on the planet, the efforts of both sides are needed.

History has repeatedly proven that the Soviet Union is true to its word and to its policy of peace and counteraction against war. This truth is now confirmed

by a series of proposals intended to turn the development of international life away from the increasing of tensions to easing them, and, as M. S. Gorbachev announced in his New Year's address to the American people, to give mankind "a reliable prospect of peace, a prospect of entering the third millennium without fear."

The basic approach of the USSR and its friends to the problem of disarmament consists of the parties' being guided by the principle of equality and uniform security, without striving to strengthen their security by means of new types of weapons which thus disrupt the military-strategic parity between the USSR and the USA and between the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO.

It is specifically in this key that we should view the large-scale Soviet peace initiatives, which are supported by the countries of the socialist alliance. Added to the previously adopted responsibilities of not being the first to use nuclear weapons and not placing anti-satellite systems in space were the proposals on reducing by 50 percent the nuclear weapons currently existing in the USSR and the USA which are capable of reaching each other's territory. These were accompanied by a mandatory condition of total prohibition of the development of space strike weapons, and by the introduction of a moratorium on all types of nuclear tests. The Soviet state also declared a unilateral moratorium on the further placement of medium range missiles in Europe and on retaliatory measures connected with the placement of American first-strike missiles in the European zone. The CPSU and the Soviet government presented new and far-reaching initiatives on most of these problems. They were presented in the Announcement by M. S. Gorbachev. A major act of good will by the Soviet Union became the proposal on totally ridding mankind of nuclear weapons by the end of the 20th century, on liquidating all medium-range ballistic and cruise missiles by the USSR and the USA in the European zone as the first stage of reducing nuclear weapons, as well as on prolonging until 31 March 1986 the unilateral moratorium on any nuclear blasts, as well as other Soviet initiatives.

Thus, the set of new initiatives presented in the Announcement of the CPSU Central Committee Secretary General encompasses all the most important directions and spheres of activity in the interests of disarmament, restoration of trust, and strengthening of the prospects of a peaceful future and progress of all peoples. The matter now rests with the West.

In this connection, we cannot help but be concerned about the reports that the United States continues to press forward on work with the "star wars" program, whose realization would lead to strategic chaos and to a qualitatively new and uncontrolled stage in the arms race. The doctrine of "new globalism" recently proclaimed by Washington has once again shown that the imperialist circles in the USA, who continue to increase tension in the world, aspire to the role of some kind of "world judge" who has the fates of all peoples in his power.

This is why, as long as the danger exists of unleashing imperialist aggression, military conflicts and any type of provocations, the CPSU considers it necessary,

as stated in the outline of the new edition of its Program, for the "USSR Armed Forces to be at a level which would exclude the strategic supremacy of the imperialist forces, so that the defense capability of the Soviet state may be comprehensively developed and the combat cooperation of the armies of the fraternal socialist countries strengthened."

The USSR does not encroach on the security of any country--be it in the West or in the East. It threatens no one and does not strive to enter into conflict with any state. It wants to live in peace with all countries. Since the time of the Great October, the Soviet socialist state bears high the banner of peace and friendship between peoples. Maintaining their truth to this Leninist banner, the CPSU and the Soviet state, in close unity with the fraternal parties and states of the socialist alliance, will continue to strive toward betterment of the international situation and toward a comprehensive strengthening of peace in the name of security and well-being of all the peoples of our planet.

12322
CSO: 5200/1268

U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

DUTCH ANALYST ON CONDITIONS IN GORBACHEV PROPOSAL

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 12 Mar 86 p 7

[Article by Dr J.G. Siccama, research associate at the Dutch Institute for International Relations "Clingendael" in The Hague: "Gorbachev's Proposal: Conditions Trouble Outlook For Accord"]

[Text] According to Gorbachev, the world can be free of nuclear weapons in the year 2000, an ideal that Reagan, too, had already embraced when he introduced his strategic defense plans in March 1983. Gorbachev, who divides the route to that year into three stages, gave priority to a nuclear weapon-free Europe. In the first phase, which would take between 5 and 8 years, medium-range nuclear weapons would be eliminated. Doesn't the withdrawal of SS-20's (on the Russian side) and Pershing-2's and Cruise missiles (on NATO's side) still mean acceding to the zero-zero option proposed by Reagan at the start of the INF negotiations in 1981?

In other points as well (prohibiting the possession of chemical weapons, conventional stability), breakthroughs in arms consultations seemed to be at hand, all the more so since Gorbachev has shown himself ready to accept on-site inspection. And optimism rose to even greater heights when the Soviet Union, in an explanation to the speech, made an accord on European medium-range nuclear weapons no longer dependent on a halt to the American SDI plans. What really still stood in the way of subscribing to the zero-zero option for medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, which would also eliminate the need to base Cruise missiles in the Netherlands?

Two Conditions

A careful reading of Gorbachev's text shows that the Soviet Union will only agree to such a zero-zero option if two conditions are fulfilled. In the first place, the United States must refrain from sending delivery systems to its allies and England and France have to renounce an 'expansion' of their nuclear armaments. In fact, this clause boils down to making it impossible for the United States to supply the British with Trident missiles and Cruise missiles. Furthermore, Moscow is trying to get the United States to bring the European countries with nuclear weapons under U.S. guardianship. Namely, the United States is supposed to see that France and England live up to a Russian demand concerning the armament of America's allies.

In the second place, Gorbachev couples the elimination of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe to the condition that the United States agree to a nuclear test ban. Literally, this condition, which incidentally has received scarcely any attention, reads: 'From the first, it is necessary that the Soviet Union and the United States agree to a halt to all nuclear tests and call upon other nations to join in this moratorium as quickly as possible.' Gorbachev opposes the reduction in nuclear weapons, not bound to a ban on all nuclear tests, proposed by Reagan. Without a test ban, according to him, nuclear weapons will continue to be further refined. Consequently, a ban on nuclear testing (bilateral and later multilateral) is a practical step towards moving away from nuclear weapons.

On this point, the Russian party leader doesn't shy away from threats. The moratorium that the Soviet Union had unilaterally imposed and that was originally supposed to last until 31 December 1985 has been extended 'one more time', namely until 31 March 1986. The Soviet Union cannot, however, 'continue to show restraint in making nuclear tests until the end of time.' In the absence of a positive American response to the one-sided Russian moratorium, the 'logic' of the arms race should have demanded that Moscow resume nuclear testing on 1 January. This is a last attempt to break through that 'logic'. If America again fails to respond positively, then 'the arms race will change into an avalanche in which any control over the course of events will become impossible.'

Grandiose Plans

In his response to Gorbachev's proposal of 24 February past, Reagan did not go into either of the two conditions named by the Russian party leader at all. Reagan did couple the elimination of medium-range missiles to the condition that this would apply not only to SS-20's, Cruise missiles and Pershing-2's in Europe (or in the 'European zone') but likewise to that part of Russian territory in Asia from which SS-20's are not in a position to reach Western Europe. This condition, whose goal is to prevent the threat from being shifted to Japan and China, was not altogether new. That was also the case with the demand that the elimination would also have to hold for 'other types of medium-range nuclear weapons.'

There is little doubt that this means, among other things, the SS-22 missiles with a range of about 900 km in the GDR and in Czechoslovakia, and that the United States set this extra condition at the instigation of the GDR, the Netherlands and other countries. But just as much as the other conditions for a zero-solution named by the United States (removal of imbalances in conventional arms, resolution of regional conflicts), these complicating circumstances make it less likely that this zero-zero solution will ever really be achieved.

The history of arms control consultation shows that grandiose plans like comprehensive and general (nuclear) disarmament and a total ban on nuclear testing often mask the unwillingness of the superpowers to reach genuine negotiated results. Progress is given preference over concrete and partial reductions.

Reagan's crusade against nuclear weapons, Gorbachev's hodge-podge of total (nuclear) disarmament, the 'real' zero-solution for Europe and Andropov's three-phase plan (1982) all awaken memories of the fruitless consultation of the fifties and the beginning of the sixties. This might indicate that a negotiated agreement on nuclear weapons at Geneva will be more difficult to achieve than many are inclined to think.

In any event, one hopes that the "avalanche" in the arms race predicted by Gorbachev will be less terrifying than the series of heavy nuclear tests with which Krushchev broke the moratorium that was in effect in 1961. Or will the Russians also drop the condition of a halt to nuclear testing?

12507/8918
CSO: 5200/2655

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS CITES SAARLAND MINISTER ON REMOVAL OF U.S. MISSILES

LD232222 Moscow TASS in English 2205 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Bonn March 23 TASS--TASS correspondent Sergey Sosnovskiy reports:

If a Social Democratic government comes to power in Bonn as a result of Bundestag elections due to be held next year, it will withdraw the American first-strike Pershing-2 and cruise nuclear missiles from the FRG's territory. A statement to this effect has been made by Oskar Lafonten, prime minister of the government of Saarland, chairman of the SPD land organization in Saar. He was addressing a congress of his party's land organization in Saarbuecken. Oskar Lafonten, who headed Saar's land government last year, is one of the most consistent opponents of implementation of the notorious NATO nuclear missile decisions among the West German Social Democrats.

He has repeatedly protested against the turning of the FRG's territory into a launching pad for the death-bringing American first-strike nuclear missiles, took an active part in various actions by the peace champions. The anti-missile stand of the Saar Social Democrats has contributed in a considerable measure to a growth of their prestige among the population of the land and helped them with a comfortable victory over the CDU in the course of the land elections in 1985.

O. LaFonten also declared for completely freeing the FRG's territory from nuclear weapons in the future. He also declared for the FRG's withdrawal from the NATO's military wing, while preserving its membership in the political organization of the North Atlantic Community.

The statements by the prime minister of Saarland have caused a panic among the FRG's ruling circles. They were in a hurry to launch a propaganda campaign against the Social Democrats, ascribing them some "neutralist tendencies" and accusing them of "infidelity" to the North Atlantic Bloc.

/9365

CSO: 5200/1317

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: U.S. REPORTEDLY STOCKPILING PERSHING II'S IN FRG

LD291359 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Commentary by Rudolf Kolchanov]

[Text] The West German Magazine DER SPIEGEL, citing U.S. sources, reports that not 108 Pershing II missiles -- as was agreed upon in the December 1979 NATO decision -- but 156 such first-strike nuclear missiles have already been sited [razmeshcheno] on FRG territory. International affairs journalist Rudolf Kolchanov is at the microphone:

In this case one simply cannot but repeat the well-known dictum that sooner or later every secret comes out. True, the first reports to the effect that the United States intended to introduce intermediate-range nuclear missiles into the FRG in a larger quantity than was officially announced appeared some 4 years ago. At first, news surfaced in the Western press that the Pentagon had ordered from military concerns not 108 Pershing II's but some 400. For whom were they earmarked? The reply to this question was given then by the PARLAMENTARISCH POLITISCHE PRESSEDIENST, the press bulletin of the Social Democratic Party of Germany. It reported that the entire new nuclear missile arsenal would be deployed [dislotsirovan] on FRG territory.

As facts testify, these predictions are being realized. At the U.S. Fort Sill military base in Oklahoma State, 30 more complete Pershing II's are ready for dispatch beyond the ocean. They can at any moment join the missiles which have already been concealed [zataillis] in West Germany. Combined with the nuclear weapons previously imported into the FRG, the new intermediate-range missiles make up an immense stockpile of mass destruction weapons.

But Washington even considers this to insufficient: John Wickham, U.S. Army chief of staff, stated that the number of missiles sited [razmeshchennyye] on FRG territory is far lower than the computed level of requirement.

Four years ago Washington publicly assured the Bonn chancellor that additional nuclear armaments for West Germany would be limited, as regards Pershing II's, to 108 units. Today it is a question of 400. How many will it be tomorrow and the day after tomorrow?

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CSO: 5200/1317

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: PUBLIC OPPOSES THATCHER'S SUPPORT OF NUCLEAR ARMS

LD021007 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Commentary by Viktor Levin]

[Text] A dispatch from London: A mass public protest demonstration against Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet's militaristic course has taken place near the Molesworth military base in Cambridgeshire. Here is Mayak's commentary and Viktor Levin is at the microphone:

Intensive preparations for the siting of the U.S. cruise missiles are under way at the Molesworth military base. The first batch of these first-strike missiles was deployed at the Greenham Common base. The British public is aware that pandering to the U.S. military clique's militaristic plans is turning Britain into the Pentagon's nuclear hostage. The British came out against the cruise missiles at an earlier stage, too. And now that the Soviet Union's proposals have opened up a real path toward ridding Europe completely of nuclear arms the protest movement is gathering special momentum.

It is also with satisfaction that the public has welcomed the USSR's proposals to liquidate medium-range nuclear weapons on the continent and its initiative to put a complete halt to nuclear explosions.

In these proposals numerous Britons justifiably see a real path toward strengthening peace and toward freeing mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation.

The British Government, however, as evidenced by the statements of its highly placed representatives, not only fails to heed the voice of reason, the demands of its own people, but, with a zeal worthy of a better cause, throws itself into the fray in defense of the U.S. adventurist policies.

Common sense and the national interest alike are being sacrificed here. Judge for yourselves: In an interview with THE TIMES, Prime Minister Thatcher stated literally the following: I do not imagine the world without nuclear arms. Let us be practical about this question. She was blunt about it.

To put it mildly, the British prime minister's practical attitude looks strange. Mankind craves to be rid of nuclear arms, to ban them once and for all -- Thatcher advocates retaining these arms.

The head of the British Cabinet attempts to counter the logic of reason which runs through the USSR's proposal to liquidate nuclear arms over the next 15 years with the distorted logic of military thinking. But, a majority of Britons resolutely reject this logic, if one may call it that. The mass antiwar demonstrations are evidence of this.

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

PRAVDA VIEWS TURKISH REFUSAL OF MORE NUCLEAR ARMS

PM020811 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by A. Stepanov: "Turkey's Position"]

[Text] Ankara, 27 Mar -- At the recent session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group in the West German city of Wuerzburg, the Turkish representative stated that his country does not intend to assume additional nuclear commitments within the framework of this military bloc.

As is well known, the Honest John missiles now on Turkish territory are being replaced with Lance missiles with a far larger radius and a plant for the production of modern F-16 fighter bombers is being constructed with U.S. aid. At the same time, talks are under way on Turkey's acquisition of Tornado combat aircraft of joint European production.

In Wuerzburg the United States and the FRG tried to get Turkey to agree to equip the Lance missiles with nuclear warheads. The NATO strategists also want to provide nuclear weapons for the aircraft which will be at the service of the Turkish Air Force. However, the newspaper CUMHURIYET writes, citing the Turkish Foreign Ministry, that at the Nuclear Planning Group session, Ankara refused U.S. and NATO demands, stressing that those conditions contradict Turkey's national interests and would cause serious damage to its relations with neighboring countries, primarily the Soviet Union.

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CSO: 5200/1317

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

CTK COMMENTS ON LATEST ROUND OF GENEVA TALKS

AU092259 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 5 Mar 86 p 7

/CTK Geneva dispatch: "The Words of the U.S. Administration Are Not Buttressed by Actual Deeds"/

/Text/ Geneva (CTK)--The fourth round of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons ended in Geneva on Tuesday /4 March/.

Following the meeting in November between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the peaceloving world public expressed the hope that at the negotiations the two sides would start a specific search for common ground. This has not happened, however.

Who is to blame? The substance of the positions of the two sides is no secret. The Soviet Union practices an open diplomacy, which encounters the broad support of the international public. The main propositions of the White House are also sufficiently known. In comparing the two lines, most commentators arrive at conclusions that are not in the United States' favor. The American proposals concerning strategic nuclear weapons, in particular, are inconsistent with the principle of equality and equal security. Their implementation would not mean a reduction, but an increase in the number of weapons in the United States in a number of categories. As regards intermediate-range devices, the latest statements of the U.S. Administration are confined, in fact, to reiterations of the infamous "zero option," which was responsible for the thwarting of talks between the USSR and the United States in 1983, the only difference being that it is now accompanied by additional conditions and requirements that are not balanced and make this option even more unacceptable.

As far as the prevention of the militarization of space is concerned, the Americans have made no proposals at all and--in defiance of commitments adopted in January 1985 and reaffirmed in the joint statement by the participants in the November summit--should prefer this problem to be placed outside of the negotiations' framework. According to observers, this erects another great obstacle to progress at the talks.

The results of the fourth round thus demonstrate once again that the eloquent assurances about the good intentions of representatives of the U.S. Administration, assurances made in Washington as well as Geneva, are not buttressed by actual deeds. It remains to be hoped that during the recess the American side will realize the urgent necessity of its demonstrating a new approach to the problems of peace and security and averting the trend of further escalation of military danger while this is still possible.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

USSR MBFR DELEGATE NEYLAND VIEWS NEW BLOC PROPOSALS

PM271155 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No 12, 23 Mar 86 Signed to Press
18 Mar 86 p 5

[Article by Nikolay Neyland, member of the Soviet delegation at the Vienna talks: "12 Steps To Meet the West"]

[Text] In late February at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, the socialist countries undertook an important new initiative.

The GDR delegation, on behalf of the GDR, Poland, the USSR, and the CSSR, submitted a detailed draft "agreement on an initial reduction of ground forces and armaments by the Soviet Union and the United States with a subsequent nonincrease in the levels of the sides' armed forces and armaments and related measures in central Europe." The Warsaw Pact states' desire to achieve a positive change at the talks was reaffirmed. What characterizes the submitted draft?

The new proposals, while preserving all the fundamental provisions contained in the socialist countries' 14 February 1985 proposals, greatly develop them, add detail, and supplement them. The new draft considers those elements of the West's position set forth 5 December last year which are acceptable.

Speaking in Vienna, V. Mikhaylov, the leader of the Soviet delegation at the talks, noted the 12 points on which the socialist countries took steps to bring the positions closer. They essentially extend to all the main fields of a possible accord: the reduction of Soviet and U.S. troops, the provision on verification [kontrol], and others.

Taking into account the West's position, the socialist countries agreed on reduced volumes for the initial reductions of troops of the USSR and United States and also with the West's proposed 3-year deadline for a subsequent freeze. They provide in their draft agreement for the establishment, for the entire period of its operation, of permanent points for monitoring the exit and entrance of troops from the region or into the region of the reductions, the possibility of undertaking on-site verification [proverka] following a justified request, the creation of a consultative commission, and the exchange of information on troops coming under the operation of the nonincrease undertaking, and other points.

The NATO representatives assert frequently but unfoundedly that the achievement of progress at the talks is impeded by the Warsaw Pact countries' reluctance to agree on verification measures. It is now obvious that that is by no means the point. The

socialist countries stand and have stood for sensible verification according with the content and point of disarmament measures.

And so a new step has been taken at the Vienna talks, bearing witness to the Warsaw Pact countries' possession of the political will not only to move the protracted talks from a standstill but also to lay a practical foundation to agreed reductions of conventional armed forces. All this refutes the militarists' phony arguments that the abolition of nuclear weapons will leave the West "defenseless" in the face of "Soviet military superiority."

Several weeks have elapsed since the new initiative was put forward and time has shown that the Western participants in the talks are unfortunately continuing to impose on the Warsaw Pact countries terms for the agreement which would put them at a disadvantage compared to the NATO countries.

How else is it possible to assess the Western participants' persistent attempts to unjustifiably extend verification measures beyond the framework of the agreed region of central Europe, that is to the territory of the Soviet Union, which fundamentally contradicts the very mandate of the Vienna talks? The Western participants are seeking to minimize the real reductions of armed forces and are refusing to resolve the question of arms reduction and at the same time are arbitrarily increasing and complicating their demands for verification and taking them to the point of absurdity, as though this was the main aim of the talks, and not the reduction of military antagonism in central Europe. The Vienna talks are not taking place in a vacuum, they are an important part of the overall process of talks to halt the arms race and of the consolidation of trust between states. "The main thing here," as M.S. Gorbachev said at the 27th CPSU Congress, "is to bring matters to a mutually acceptable balance of interests."

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CSO: 5200/1316

EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

CSSR DAILY CRITICIZES NATO VERIFICATION DEMANDS

AU191507 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 11 Mar 86 p 6

/Article by Josef Sestak, deputy head of the Czechoslovak mission to the United Nations in Vienna: "Realistic Concept of the Socialist Countries; Public Demands Concrete Results"/

/Text/ More than a year ago, the member-states of the Warsaw Pact--participants in the Vienna talks on the Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions in central Europe, submitted a significant proposal, with which they paved the way for a sensible compromise at this historically longest-lasting disarmament forum. In the interest of speedily achieving first concrete and tangible results, they proposed concentrating attention on effecting the first two steps: 1) an initial symbolic reduction of the USSR and the U.S. ground troops, together with their equipment and combat technology (20,000 troops on the USSR side and 13,000 troops on the U.S. side); 2) a consecutive nonincrease of the level of armed forces and equipment of all 11 direct participants in the talks. This practical project was submitted in Vienna on 14 February 1985 in the form of a draft of basic stipulations of an agreement with the proviso that it be fully opened for a constructive and pragmatic discussion. Its greatest advantage was that it soberly and realistically reacted to a more than a decade-long impasse at the talks, and offered a real /realne/ way out of the situation.

Since the socialist countries submitted the aforementioned proposal, they have not missed a single opportunity to draw NATO's attention to the immense military and political significance which the achievement of the first agreement in Vienna has yielded. Be it the Sofia session of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact, Mikhail Gorbachev's speech to the French Parliament last October, or the 27th CPSU Congress, they all reminded one that in Vienna there lies a topical and viable proposal of the socialist countries. One can positively assess the fact that under the influence of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva, the NATO states--in their reply on 5 December 1985--accepted the idea of a partial agreement proposed by the socialist countries, as well as the timetable of the first 2 years--the initial symbolic Soviet-American reduction and the consequent nonincrease of the levels of troops and armaments by the direct participants in the talks. For the first time in many years a situation was created at the Vienna talks which makes it possible for both sides to fully concentrate their attention on the two

groups of issues which are to be the foundation of the future agreement. At the same time, however, it is necessary to note that the Western response is marked by a number of imbalanced /nevyvazene/ and unrealistic elements that create obstacles in the path of accelerated progress.

In the NATO's response of 5 December 1985, the resolution of the equipment issue is at variance with the mandate of the Vienna talks. According to the Western view, a symbolic contingent of USSR and U.S. troops without their equipment should be withdrawn, and the freeze as well should concern only troops, a matter that would leave the "door open" for the continuation of the feverish stockpiling of new and ever more destructive weapons in central Europe.

However, the most topical negative feature of the Western response is the endeavor to replace the agreement on the process of the reduction of the level of military confrontation with an "agreement on verification." The NATO states, as if obsessed by the fetish of verification, would like to fill the fairly simple agreement on the realization of the first steps by a blownup "packet" of verification measures, with which they came to Vienna as early as 1979.

The objective of the verification measures of the partial agreement, which is being discussed in Vienna now, logically and in accordance with the agreed principle of the preservation of the security of both sides, namely, would have to be: a. the verification of whether the USSR and the United States withdrew the agreed symbolic contingents of their ground troops and equipment; b. the verification of whether the seven NATO states and the four Warsaw Pact states--direct participants in the talks--in the course of the agreed freeze period do not violate that pledge and do not increase the existing number of their troops and equipment in the central European region.

The socialist countries are interested in a reliable and strict verification of the fulfillment of the agreed commitments. They are not interested in anything less, but not in anything more either. They propose concrete, sensible, and substantiated verification measures that respect the principles of equality, equal security, and the nonviolation of the security of the participating parties. Also, in this issue, the key to progress is the political will, the search for mutually acceptable solutions, but not the striving for gaining unilateral advantages through extreme demands. Therefore, the socialist states in Vienna asked the West this fundamental question: Is it ready and willing to search for a mutually acceptable solution, or does it want to continue persisting on its "packet" of verification measures, which often goes beyond the framework of the sensible and the realistic? The future will show whether the NATO states--participants in the talks--will persist on their position, which has no chance of success--all or nothing, or whether they will join the effort to find realistic solutions.

Adhering to the policy of a good example, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement of 15 January 1986, in which he formulated the historical program of the liquidation of the nuclear threat, confirmed in regard to the Vienna talks the preparedness of the Soviet Union

and the Warsaw Pact member-states to agree on reasonable verification measures, and proposed expansion of the number of verification measures concerning the partial agreement by setting up permanent checkpoints to monitor the entry and exit of troops in the central European region. This proposal has elicited deserved interest and attention also in the West.

In accordance with its principled policy aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear war, at reducing the level of military confrontation, at developing international relations in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and detente, the socialist countries participants in the Vienna talks, on 20 February 1986 came forward with a new constructive initiative. Proceeding from their proposal of partial agreement, they submitted an expanded draft agreement on the initial reduction of USSR and U.S. ground forces and their equipment, with a subsequent maintenance of level of the armed forces and equipment in central Europe. It is a proposal that develops, defines, and complements the project of the socialist countries of 14 February 1985, takes into consideration the positive parts of the Western response of 5 December, and proposes a compromise solution on the issues on which agreement has not been arrived at yet.

The constructive and compromise nature of this proposal of the socialist countries can be documented, for example, if one considers that they agree to a smaller number of the USSR and U.S. troops that would have to be drawn from central Europe within the framework of the first step, although they would prefer a greater number. If the United States were willing to withdraw 6,500 troops, the Soviet Union would be willing to withdraw 11,500 of its troops from that region. It complies with the NATO demand to exchange lists of USSR and U.S. troops that are to be withdrawn even before the signing of the agreement. The proposal agrees to prolonging the nonincrease period from 2 to 3 years, and of the entire agreement from 3 to 4 years. It proposes exchanging data on the two sides' numerical troop strength in central Europe prior to the freeze, and then updating the data annually. It proposes the notification on transfers of ground forces, calling up reserves, and military exercises of 20,000 or more ground troops. It expands the sum of verification measures by setting up three or four permanent checkpoints monitoring the entry and exit of troops in the eastern as well as western parts of central Europe. It anchors the parties' right to verification on the spot in case of a substantial request. It agrees to setting up a permanent consultative commission for flexibly /operativne/ discussing issues connected with the agreement's fulfillment.

It is only logical that the socialist countries demand in this agreement that the presumed commitments regarding the initial reduction and consequent freeze apply not only to troops, but also to their equipment and combat technology, and in place of exaggerated and unrealistic verification measures they propose a balanced, reasonable, and adequate supervision of the commitments adopted by the two parties.

Now it depends on the political will of the NATO member-states whether they will sufficiently appreciate the new constructive initiative of the socialist countries, and whether they will be willing to accept their request so that one will be able to start working on editing /redakcia/ a new agreement. The world public demands concrete results from the disarmament process. The year

1986 could become a milestone of the Vienna disarmament forum. It is high time to strengthen the authority of the Vienna talks, and in accordance with the mandate to contribute to the signing of the first agreement in Vienna, to the deepening of trust and consolidating the stability and security on the European continent.

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EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

NATO'S MBFR APPROACH 'INFLEXIBLE, NEGATIVE'

AU212110 Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 20 Mar 86 p 7

/Milan Smolik commentary: "The West Has Failed to Demonstrate Its Interest; the Socialist Countries' Realistic Concept in Vienna"/

/Text/ When the talks between 7 Warsaw Pact member-states and 12 NATO member-states on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe--an area comprising a common border between the two military alliances and, hence, of the greatest risk of a confrontation--resumed in Vienna this year, many political observers, including those in the West, wrote that "after 12 years of dialogue, the outlines of a possible agreement have finally become known." These are words that were used by the British newspaper THE OBSERVER. And the French LE MONDE asserted: "The gap between positions with regard to the initial agreement has been narrowed...."

These assessments were made after the socialist countries had given a constructive reply to the proposal of the NATO states of last December and further expanded, detailed, and complemented their own previous proposal of February 1985. This has caused the positions held in Vienna by the countries of the Warsaw Pact and the countries of NATO to draw closer together; on 12 points, the new proposal took into consideration the Western position.

In the original proposal, the Soviet Union had recommended a reduction by 20,000 Soviet soldiers and 13,000 American soldiers within a year. In their new proposal, the socialist countries agreed to a smaller initial reduction, as proposed by the West. Within a year after the agreement's becoming effective, the USSR and the United States would thus withdraw from central Europe 11,500 and 6,500 members of their ground forces respectively, including equipment and combat technology associated with these units. The socialist countries also agreed with the Western proposal that the Soviet and American troops be reduced by formations, provided that the reduction will involve combat and supply units. They also assented to information about the specific units subject to reduction to be provided prior to the signing of the agreement. Following the completion of the Soviet and American troop reductions, the signatories would undertake not to increase their armed forces and armaments for 3 years. This means that the socialist countries agreed with the "freeze" commitment which is to become valid immediately after the completion of the Soviet-American reduction as well as with the 3-year duration of the freeze.

The basic propositions of the proposed agreement also include a number of provisions concerning verification--starting with the establishment of three to four permanent observation points monitoring the entry and exit of any and all military contingents to and from the reduction area and ending with the possibility of onsite verification on the basis of a well-reasoned request. The proposal also provides for an exchange of information to update data on the troops subject to the nonincrease, as demanded by the West. Included in the proposal is also an article on setting up a consultative commission and its functions during the term of the agreement's validity. Envisaged is, furthermore, an exchange of information on movements of ground forces to, within, and from the reduction area, as well as the announcement of military maneuvers by ground forces.

The expectations of rapid progress in formulating the initial agreement have not materialized due to the continuing inflexible and negative Western attitude. Although the socialist countries have come up with compromise solutions on diverse aspects of the problem of verification, the West finds this to be still too little and demands excessively high and unbalanced verification measures that are not commensurate with the scale and nature of the commitments. On top of this, the NATO states exclude armaments from the reduction and freeze process, which in fact violates the mandate of the conference. To political observers, the Western position in Vienna appears to be one of rejecting both the reduction and limitation of armaments, rejecting the enforcement of measures that would numerically limit all armed forces of all direct participants in the Vienna talks, and opposing any curb on the scale of military manuevers. Valerian Mikhailov, the Soviet delegation head, expressed this pointedly when he said that, so far, the West has been offering in Vienna a reduction that is worth a groschen but demanding verification worth 100 schillings. The contours of an agreement are thus known, but the possibility of such an agreement being concluded is not yet on the horizon.

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CSO: 5200/3026

EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

CTK REPORTS ON TALKS AT MBFR PLENARY MEETING

AU171448 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 14 Mar 86 p 7

/CTK correspondent's Vienna dispatch: "No Trace of Genuine Interest on the Part of the West; the 38th Round of the Vienna Talks Is Drawing to its End"/

/Text/ Vienna (CTK correspondent)--Yesterday's penultimate plenary meeting of the 38th round of the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and arms in central Europe furnished evidence of two diametrically opposed approaches to weighty issues, the solution of which should in the final analysis contribute to lowering the level of military confrontation on the European Continent.

Whereas the British delegate, Michael Alesander, in his speech merely confirmed once again the inflexible and negative Western attitude and its complete lack of political will to contribute its share to the attainment of tangible results at the Vienna talks, the Soviet delegation head, Valerian Mikhaylov, spoke about the possibilities and prerequisites of fast progress. He rejected the tendentious assertion of the NATO states to the effect that the draft agreement submitted by the socialist countries on 20 February "is not an adequate reply" to the Western proposal of last December.

In this connection he said that the question arises as to whether the NATO countries really want to agree on a mutually acceptable compromise, whether they are interested in it in the first place. So far there is nothing to testify to this. Their positions and pronouncements are changing, they renege on their previous positions, and reject that of which they only recently approved. All at once and without any indepth analysis, their representatives in Vienna assumed a negative attitude both to our draft agreement and to the recommendation of the Warsaw Pact member-countries to start joint work on the text of an agreement.

Valerian Mikhaylov stressed that work on the text of the agreement, as recommended by the socialist countries, would make it possible to enshrine in the legal formulations of a treaty that on which the two sides have already agreed and to draw up individual articles. In short, it would make it possible to make headway. Outstanding issues could be left in brackets for the time being, as is customary in international practice. At the same time he called on the NATO states to proceed in a businesslike manner at the Vienna talks and thereby contribute to the fast attainment of a mutually acceptable agreement.

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CSO: 5200/3026

EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

CURRENT STATE OF MBFR TALKS ASSESSED

AU241506 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 21 Mar 86 pp 1, 7

/Bedrich Zagar Vienna dispatch: "After the 38th Round of Negotiations a 2-month Break; the West Is Dodging the Issue, But Exacerbating its Rhetoric"/

/Text/ Instead of constructively searching for possibilities to draw the stands closer, so as to be finally able to start working out the text of the agreement, the West has exacerbated its rhetoric at yesterday's session--the last session of the 38th round of the Vienna negotiations on reducing the strength of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. Obviously, in this exacerbation it has found a way to evade the convincing arguments of the socialist countries and to produce the impression that its own stances are well informed.

However, the businesslike nature of negotiations cannot be replaced by sharp-sounding but empty, words, as Ambassador Robert Blackwill, head of the American delegation, strove to do when he spoke yesterday on behalf of the participating delegations of the NATO countries. In his speech he referred to statements made by Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, as though wanting to use them in support of his accusations addressed to the socialist countries which, according to him, are making the negotiations difficult. He selected only those of Mikhail Gorbachev's words which suited him.

Yes, Mikhail Gorbachev did say that the Soviet Union is willing to accede to control measures, and even to on-the-spot inspection, provided these measures are sensible and will serve the issue. The socialist states inserted into their complementary proposals of 1 month ago specific ideas on setting up control points during troops movements to, and from, the given area. However, Ambassador Blackwill ignored this, because--as he said in his speech yesterday--he did not intend to react to the proposals made by the socialist countries since they contain "unacceptable notions." According to Blackwill, the West no longer has anything to revise in its stances--it is going to wait only for the socialist states' "corrections" /korektury/. What an original notion of negotiations between two partners with equal rights!

Ambassador Ludek Handl, head of the Czechoslovak delegation, took the floor on behalf of the socialist countries; he issued the reminder that the proposals made by the socialist states on a partial agreement are a truly bilaterally

acceptable way out of the many years of stagnation at the Vienna negotiations. The West itself conceded the practical nature of this concept last December. But now it can find nothing good in it; on the contrary, it is insisting even more vehemently on its totally unfounded verification measures which, after the "numerical barrier," are now becoming a new barrier at the Vienna negotiations. Instead of striving for an agreement on cutting down the military confrontation in central Europe, as assigned by the mandate of the Vienna negotiations, the NATO delegations are striving to achieve some kind of verification agreement.

Ambassador Handl pointed out the West's inflexibility, which borders almost on an ultimatum. For instance, it is written in the Western proposal: "All the points covered in the associated measures will become part of the agreement; only thus will it be possible to sign the agreement." It would be desirable, the Czechoslovak Ambassador said, that the Western partners weigh all aspects and adopt their stands on the basis of political realism.

During the following press conference the Western representative was not asked a single question. Obviously the ultimatum-like tone has also affected the journalists, who seemed to consider questions superfluous. Jozef Sestak, member of the Czechoslovak delegation, conducted the press conference for the socialist countries. When asked by the journalists how he assesses the West's accusation that the socialist states are causing the negotiations to stagnate, he said that the socialist countries have always respected the West's demands. They have also proved this by acceding, for instance, to the reduction of troops strengths involved in the first phase of withdrawal, although they would far rather see higher figures here; similarly they have met the West halfway in control measures. All these were compromises in the interests of the agreement. And what did the West do? It is merely insisting on its "verifications" and reproaching the socialist countries that they do not want to adjust. If the negotiations have changed into mere "antitheses," as the head of the American delegation claimed, then it should be the West which ought to ponder on this. "After all, there are sufficient facts on hand, and everybody can judge for himself," Jozef Sestak told the journalists in conclusion.

The Vienna negotiations will have a 2-month break, and the delegations will reconvene in the Hofburg on 15 May.

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CSO: 5200/3026

RELATED ISSUES

CANADIAN NORAD WITHDRAWAL PROPOSED, CLAUSE ISSUE PROTESTED

University Chancellor on Withdrawal

Toronto THE TORONTO STAR in English 5 Mar 86 p A9

[Text]

KINGSTON (CP) — Canada should pull out of the North American Aerospace Defence Command system, establish a centre for global crisis management and embark on a program of "Sky Peace," a former high-ranking Canadian diplomat says.

George Ignatieff, chancellor of the University of Toronto and the Brockington Visitor at Queen's University this year, says that membership in NORAD will inevitably involve Canada in the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) and jeopardize the country's security.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney is due to meet President Ronald Reagan in Washington in two weeks to discuss the terms of a new NORAD agreement.

Ignatieff, an adviser on disarmament to the federal government, said this week that Ottawa's decision to allow the participation of Canadian companies in Star Wars research is likely "to enmesh us further into the whole future concept of Fortress America, at the expense of (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) alliance solidarity as a whole."

Ignatieff said the stability of the NATO alliance, as well as relations between East and West, hinge on whether NATO rejects SDI — the formal name for Star Wars — and

accepts the Soviet initiative to renounce the first use of nuclear weapons.

Canada should get out of NORAD and move with its allies into changing the nuclear strategy of the NATO alliance, Ignatieff said.

Rather than being "tied to bilateral arrangements as a subordinate of the United States," Canada should take bold new initiatives for peace.

"Considering Canada's stake in high technology, including space research, we should be in the forefront of activity in Sky Peace, rather than Star Wars," Ignatieff said.

Canada faces the challenge of supporting the International Satellite Monitoring Agency proposed by France, a European Space Agency through which Canada can contribute to peaceful research in outer space, and Eureka, a European plan for financing high tech in space for peaceful purposes.

Defence experts

Ignatieff, who participated in tense negotiations over many of the world's trouble spots in the 1950s and 1960s, said that Canada's strategy of survival should include establishment of a crisis management centre.

Canada could provide both the facility and the expertise, but the management of the crisis would be in the hands of the diplomatic and defence experts from the two superpowers.

Missing ABM Clause Protest

Toronto THE GLOVE AND MAIL in English 17 Mar 86 p A3

[Text]

The Act for Disarmament Coalition organized a human chain between the U.S. Consulate and the Ontario Conservative Party headquarters in Toronto on Saturday to protest against Canada's renewal of the NORAD agreement without reinsertion of an anti-ballistic missile clause.

About 90 people, joined by banners and fluorescent tape, formed a chain between the consulate on University Avenue and the Conservative headquarters on Richmond Street to illustrate "a link between the American military and the Canadian Government in Star Wars," said Angela Browning, chairman of the organization, formerly known as the Against Cruise Testing Coalition.

The group wanted to bring the public's attention to the renewal in April of the North American Aerospace Defence Command agreement between Canada and the United States, "and how it will lock in Canada's participation in the Star Wars program of the American

Government," said John Bacher, chairman of the Eastern European working committee.

The coalition wants the reinsertion of a clause which specified that "Canadian participation in the activities of NORAD's aerospace warning system does not involve any commitment by the Canadian Government to take part in an active ballistic-missile defence arrangement." It was removed from the agreement in 1981.

Without the clause there is no an

guarantee that NORAD will not be a device to involve Canada in Star Wars technology that "works to undermine the ABM Treaty that was signed between the U.S.A. and the USSR which ended the future development of this technology," Mr. Bacher said.

The coalition says the agreement is being renewed without public debate. "It seemed that the removal of that clause came in through the back door," said Chris Reed, spokesman for the coalition's Waterloo region.

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BRIEFS

CANADIAN ASSEMBLY OPPOSES CRUISE TESTING--The Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories has voted to oppose further cruise missile testing and to urge the federal Government to reconsider its agreement with the United States. There was only one vote in opposition to the motion, proposed Wednesday by Dene member Sam Gargan. Government Leader Nick Sibbeston sent a Telex to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney asking that further testing be halted until the safety of northern residents and the environment can be assured. The motion comes after the recent crash of a cruise missile onto the frozen Beaufort Sea, 180 kilometres northwest of Inuvik, NWT, on the Mackenzie Delta. The missile crashed after its engine failed to ignite. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 7 Mar 86 p A5] /9274

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